EVENING KC

オールラウンダー廻 3

ALL ROUNDER MEGURU

遠藤浩輝

HIROKI ENDO

講談社

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School is a battlefield! This is a story about castes in school. In my hometown elementary and middle school, the boys who were good fighters or good at sports were on top, while those with good grades got no respect. In high school, I scored a few points for being able to play the guitar, but just a few.

There were the punks, who even in public middle school had already realized their lives were headed for a dead end and would drop kick you in the hallway just for looking at them, and the baseball team, who'd do a reverse shrimp on you for no reason. The rest of us ordinary students just lived in fear of them. Or I guess it wasn't so much "ordinary students" as that there were two groups: the bullies and the bullied.

I remember watching a group of punks wrap "F" up in a curtain and kick the shit out of him. At that moment I thought, "Next week that'll be me..." (I don't know what it was like for girls, but I know they had their own castes and it looked pretty harsh from the outside.)

Anyway, faced with that sort of irrational violence, a boy's thoughts usually fall into one of the following patterns: (1) I'll get them back right now, (2) I'll learn karate and get them back someday, (3) I'll get rich and powerful and get them back someday, or (4) I'll become a mangaka.

However, the most important thing with 2-4 is never forgetting what happened. A lot of times once those boys hit high school or college and get a girlfriend, they just stop giving a damn. It's like, if they can forget their desire for revenge after a few blow jobs and their girlfriend telling them to let it go, they didn't really care enough in the first place!

Shake off the girls, sandbag yourself in, and hold on to that desire to punch, punch, punch!

In other words, you forty-year-old martial artists and mangakas aren't wrong! Sorry, I've got tears in my eyes. I want to be able to tell young people without reservation that they should never lose that desire, that martial arts are wonderful. That's the sort of work I want to create!

Sorry! My wife just nagged me not to leave the bathroom light on!

Hiroki Endo, 1/28/2010

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EVENING KC

遠藤浩輝
HIROKI ENDOU

3

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ALL ROUNDER MEGURU

オールラウンダー廻（メグル）

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ALL ROUNDER MEGURU 3
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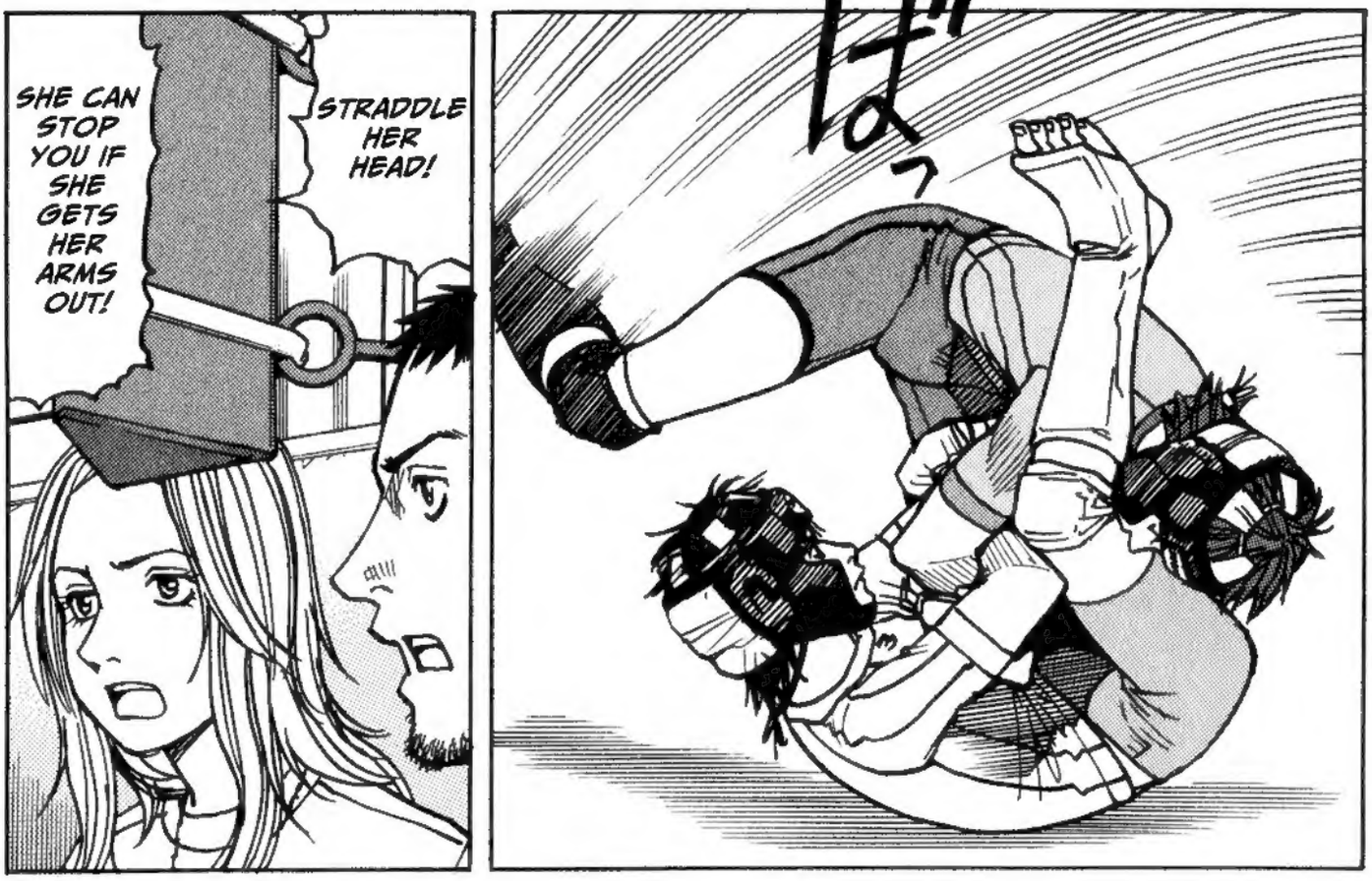
Chapter 19 | Crushed by Her Spirit

SHOOTO


SHE CAN STOP YOU IF SHE GETS HER ARMS OUT!
STRADDLE HER HEAD!
ばっ

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU...
BITCH!
SHOOTO

KAORU! JUST LET IT GO!
PULL YOUR ELBOW OUT SLOWLY!

SHOOTO
!
EEK!
WHAT THE HELL'S SHE DOING?!
ACK!

TIME!
RED! MINUS 3 POINTS FOR AN ILLEGAL GROUND PUNCH!
和魂
OBVIOUSLY MAKI WAS JUST TRYING TO SCARE HER AND HAD NO INTENTION OF ACTUALLY HITTING HER...
THAT FOOL...!
WHAT A TROU-BLE-SOME GIRL.
SHOOTO
DO THAT AGAIN AND YOU'RE DISQUALI-FIED!
TCH!
KAORU! DON'T GET ANGRY!
...
STAY CALM! STAY CALM!

STOP!
SHOOTO
...
ROUND ONE OVER!
HMPH!

I KNOW...
IF YOU JUST STAY CALM, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO BEAT YOU!
MAKI! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
THE FACT THAT YOU CAN'T PLAY BY THE RULES ONLY SHOWS THAT YOU'RE SCARED!
I'M SURPRISED SHE ESCAPED THAT ARMBAR.
MAKI'S ALWAYS BEEN AGILE...
SHE JUST NEEDS TO GET THE OTHER GIRL INTO A CLINCH. SHE'S GOOD AT THOSE...
IF SHE GETS TIRED IN ROUND TWO, SHE'LL BE EASY PREY, THOUGH.

ROUND TWO!
OK!
KAORU, JUST KEEP DOING WHAT YOU WERE DOING.
OK.
SECOND OUT!
GRAB HER AND THROW HER!
JUST BE CONFI-DENT!
SHE DIDN'T SEE MY LEFT MIDDLE COMING.
I HAVE TO TAKE HER DOWN QUICKLY...
IF SHE KEEPS UP THOSE LEFT MIDDLES, I WON'T BE ABLE TO USE MY RIGHT ARM...
FIGHT!

Fighters Brew
NEXT I'VE GOTTA HIT HER IN THE LIVER!
SHOOTO
BINGO!
HRG!
TWINGE
SHOOTO

...
SHOO
OH SHIT!
!

I HAVE TO!
I CAN TAKE HER DOWN!
SHOOTO
I THINK I'M IN LOVE...
YET SHE STILL SHOT FOR A TAKEDOWN.
DIDN'T MAKI JUST KICK HER IN THE LIVER?
TELL ME SOME-THING I DON'T KNOW!
IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO GET INTO POSITION!
SHOOTO
CLINCH!
MAKI!
GRAB HER INNER ELBOW!

GRABB
CAN I DO IT ?!
SLUMB
SWEEP
ばっ
!

SHOOTO
チャ

huff
huff
SHOOTO

DOWN!

WHOA!
SHE KNEED HER FROM THE CLINCH!
THE CLINCH IS REALLY USEFUL IF YOU'VE GOT THAT SORT OF REACH...
ONE!
TWO!

FOUR!
WSHH

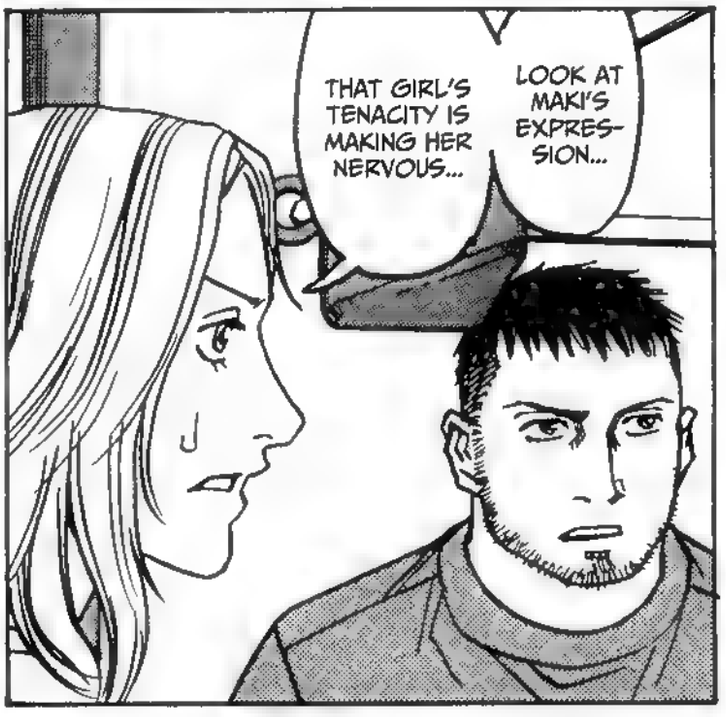
THREE!
WLOO

SHOOTO
Since 1985

THAT GIRL'S AMAZING ...
I'M IN LOVE ...
blush
SHE GOT UP...

SHE'S THE TYPE TO FALTER IN THE FACE OF AN OPPONENT...
...MORE FEROCIOUS THAN SHE IS...

YOU'RE GETTING UP AFTER THAT...?
...


THAT GIRL'S TENACITY IS MAKING HER NERVOUS...
LOOK AT MAKI'S EXPRES-SION...

Fighters Brew
!
ドゴッ

SHE'S PULLING GUARD ?!
WAH!
GRAB

AND HERE I THOUGHT SHE WAS A PUREBRED JUDOKA...
SHE'S OBVIOUSLY STUDIED JIU-JITSU, TOO.
WELL, WELL ...
A HOOK SWEEP ?!
URG!

DON'T GET ON YOUR HANDS AND KNEES!
AH! MAKI!

Chapter 20 | Fighting by the Rules

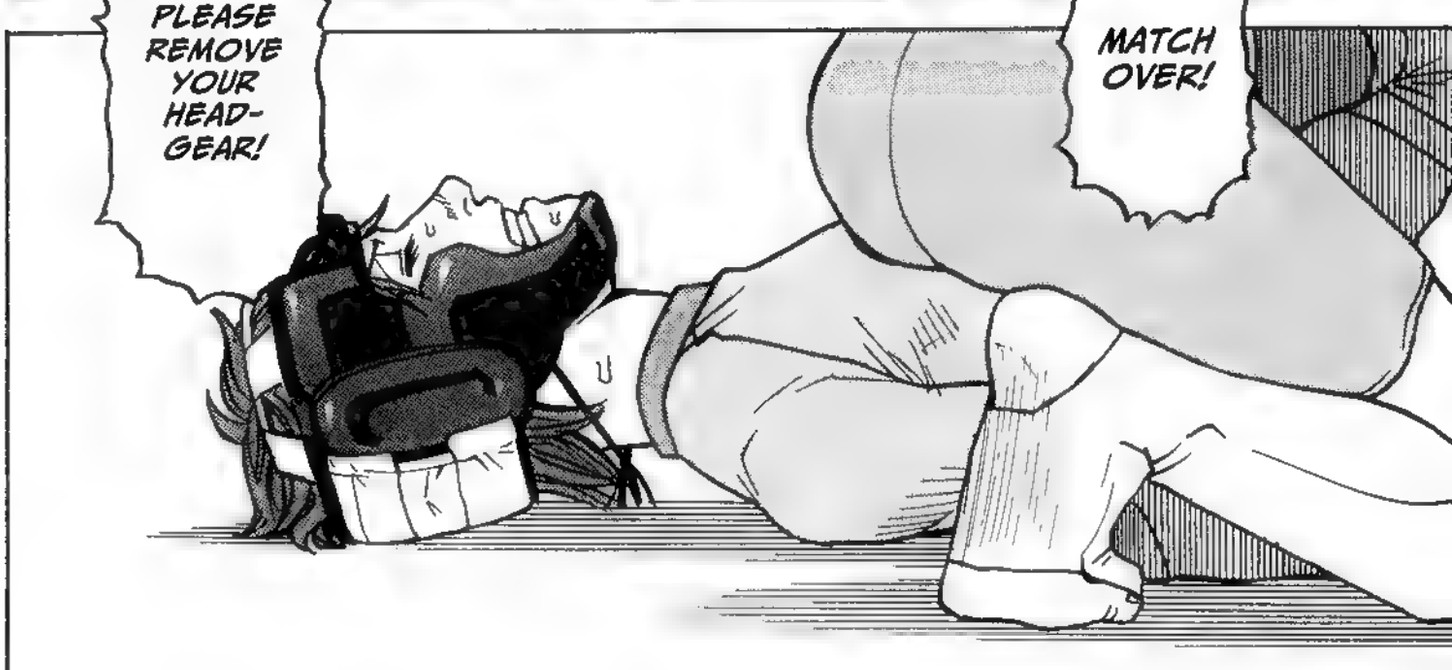
FIGHTERS
Fighters Brawl
SHOOTO

CATCH!

SHE'S GONNA PASS OUT IF SHE DOESN'T TAP...
DAMN...

TAP
TAP
TAP

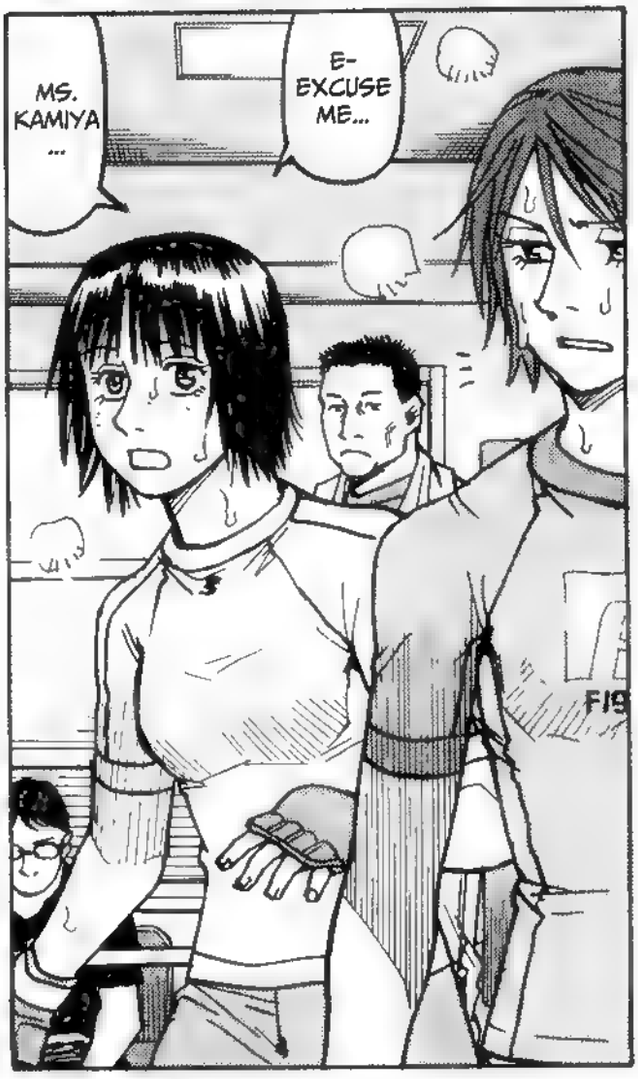
PUREBRED
STOP!


PLEASE REMOVE YOUR HEAD-GEAR!
MATCH OVER!

THE REFEREE HAS CALLED A STOP TO THIS MATCH AT 2 MINUTES AND 26 SECONDS OF ROUND NUMBER TWO...
...DECLARING THE WINNER BY SUBMISSION DUE TO A REAR NAKED CHOKE... KAORU NOBEOKA!

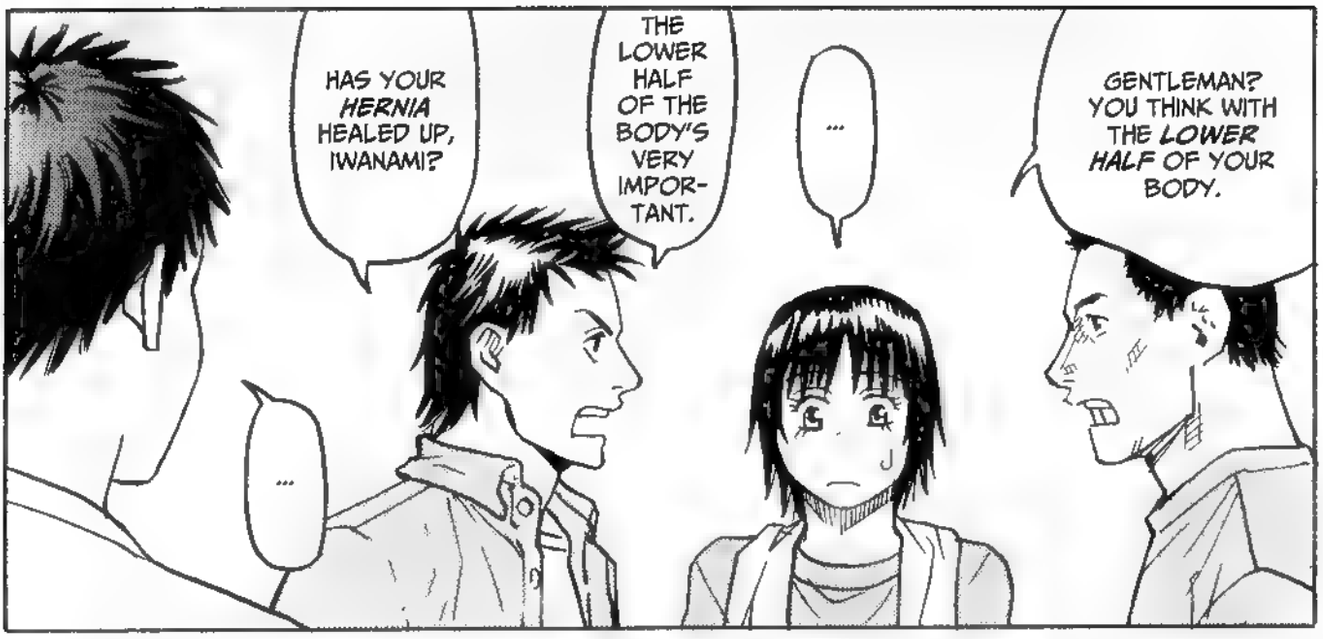
BOW
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

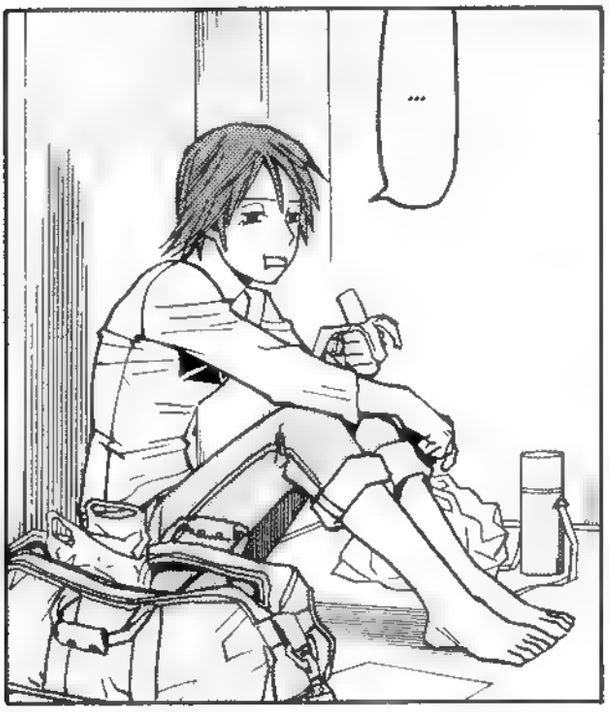
...


MS. KAMIYA ...
E- EXCUSE ME...

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT IF I EVER SEE YOU ON THE STREET.
MAKI!!
OH, HE'S...
WHERE'S TAMIYA ANYWAY?
STILL...
MAKI LOST...
NOW SHE KNOWS THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE STRONGER THAN HER, SO IT WAS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY.
...
MY NAME'S TAMIYA.
...HITTING ON THE COMPE-TITION.
I TEACH BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU AT TWO LOCAL GYMS...

...PRIVATE LESSONS TO--
I'D LOVE TO GIVE YOU...
HEY!
THANKS ...
I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR TENACITY.
YOUR GUARD PULLING AND THE HOOK SWEEP WERE BEAUTIFUL.
THAT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO!
WHAT?!
...WHO BROUGHT BACK ATHLETE'S FOOT FROM BRAZIL.
WHOA, IT'S IWANAMI...
MY DOJO'S SHOWERS ARE CLEAN NOW!
I'M STANDING RIGHT HERE, YOU KNOW!
HE CAN GET GIRLS PREGNANT JUST BY TOUCHING THEM!
KAORU! WATCH OUT FOR THIS GUY.
I'M THE GREATEST GENTLEMAN IN THE JIU-JITSU WORLD!


HAS YOUR HERNIA HEALED UP, IWANAMI?
...
THE LOWER HALF OF THE BODY'S VERY IMPOR-TANT.
...
GENTLEMAN? YOU THINK WITH THE LOWER HALF OF YOUR BODY.


...

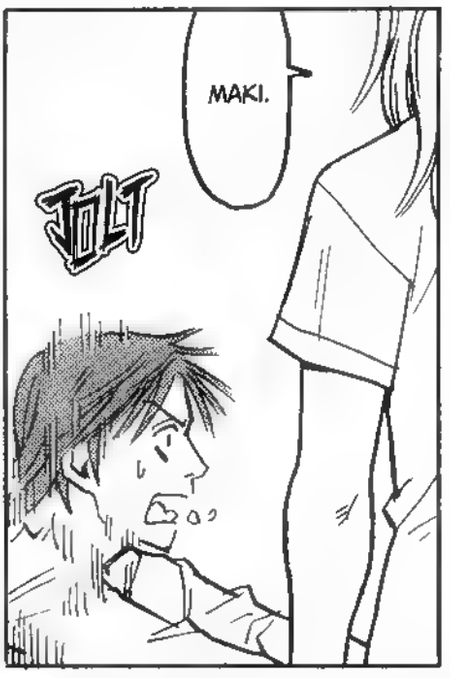
...BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S GOT A LOT OF FRIENDS.
HE MAY KNOW PEOPLE ...
TAMIYA KNOWS EVERY-ONE, DOESN'T HE?
ANYWAY, WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HER?

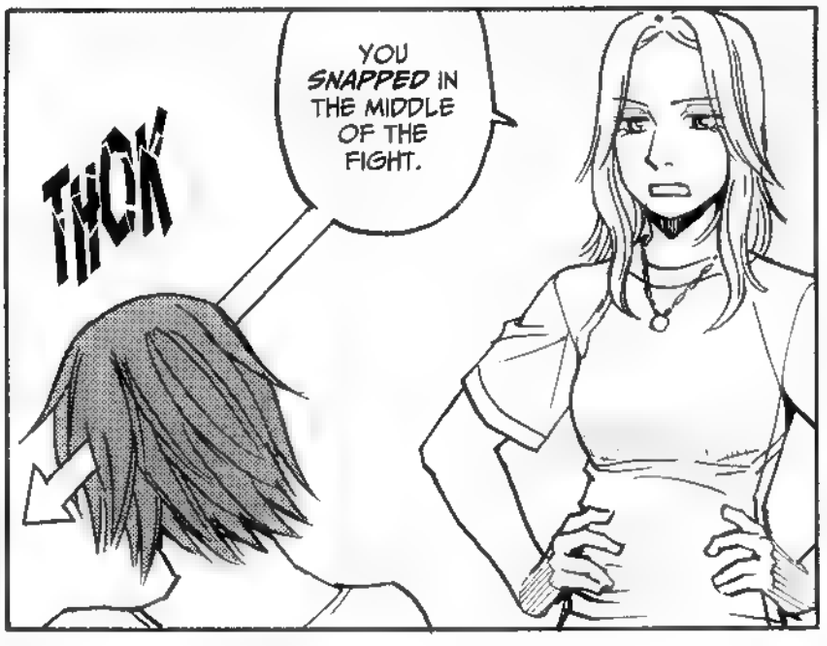
THERE'S A HALF-EATEN PIECE OF BANANA FALLING OUT OF HER MOUTH.
SHE'S BEEN FROZEN LIKE THAT FOR A WHILE NOW.
SHE'S KINDA CREEPING ME OUT.

SHOULD WE SAY SOMETHING?
OH, NOW SHE'S CRYING.
sniffle
NONEEDNEW

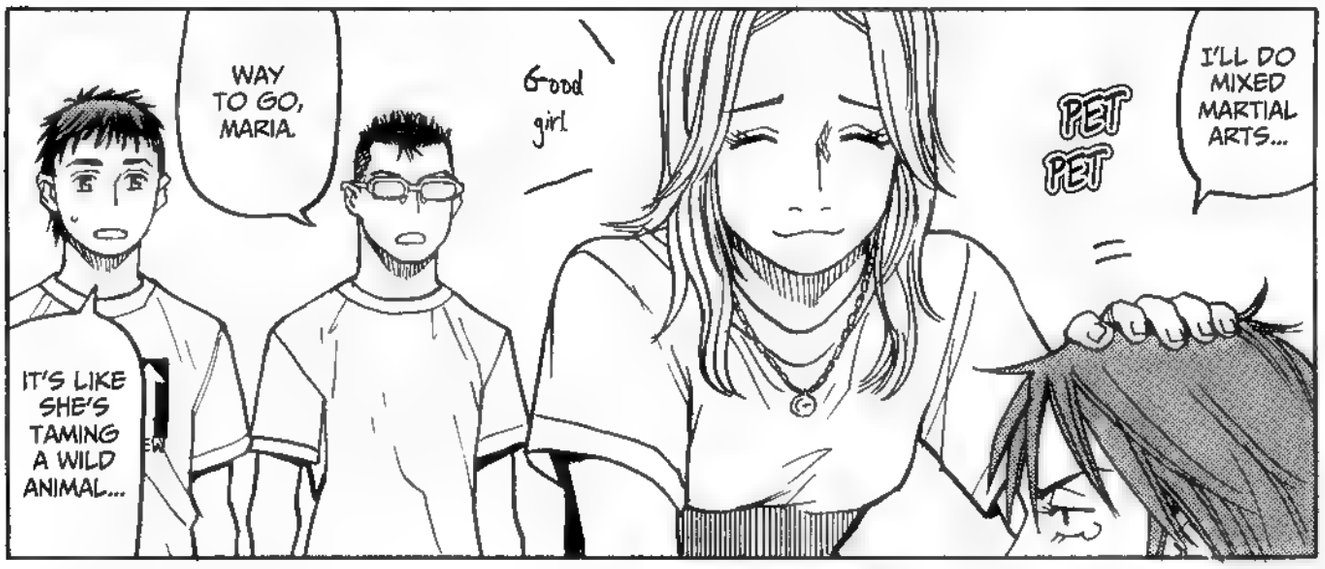
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
ARE YOU GONNA *GIVE UP* AND GO BACK TO KICKBOXING?
GLARE

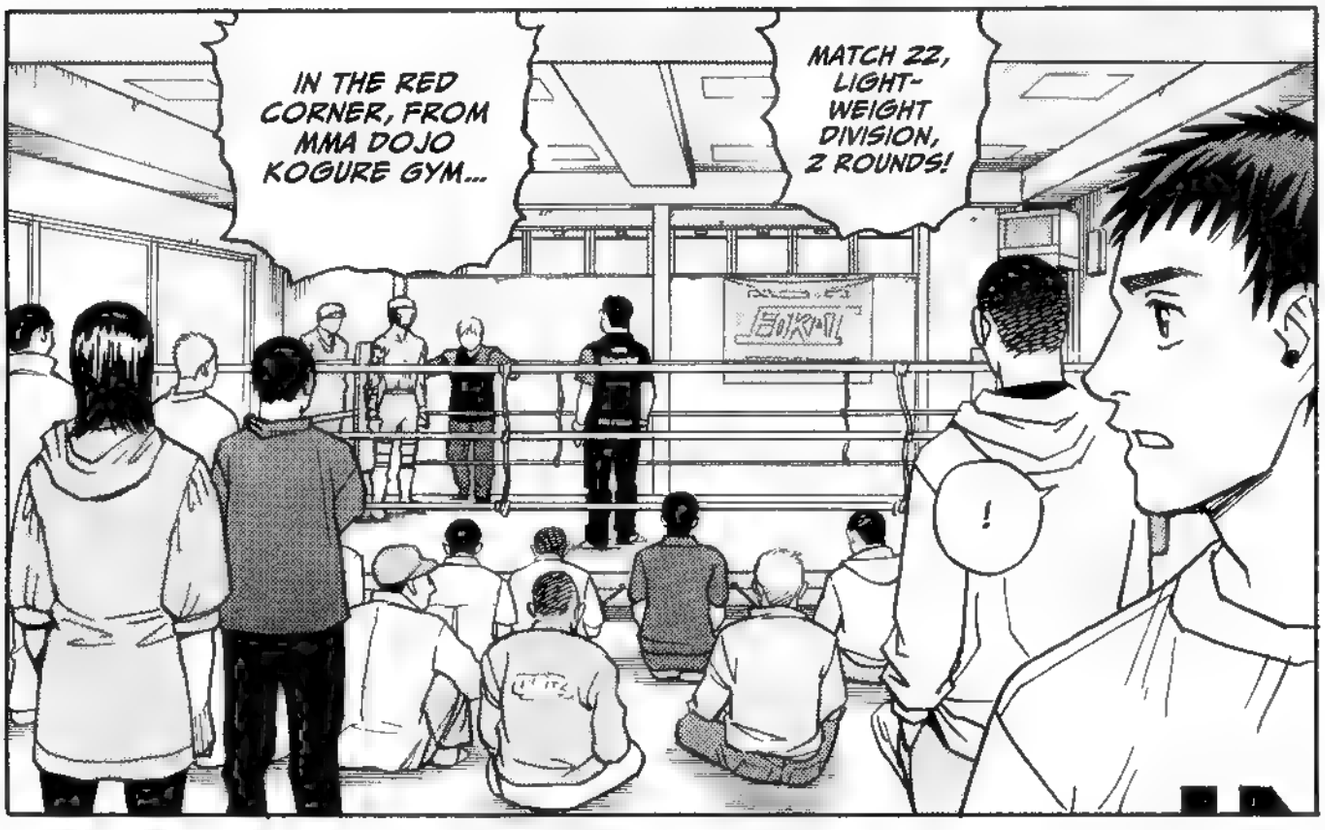
...


MAKI.
JOLT


YOU *SNAPPED* IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIGHT.
THUK

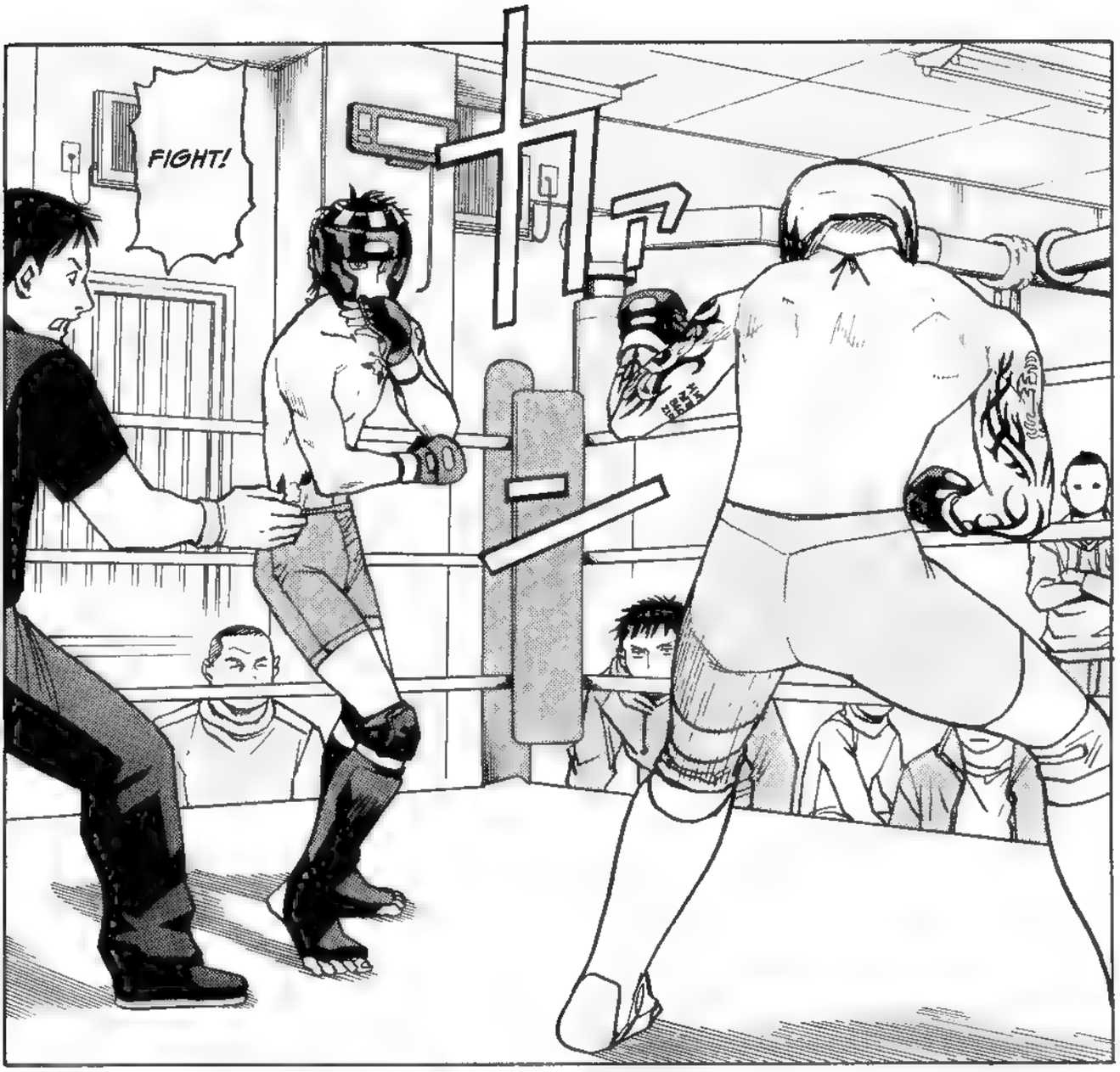
...
...I'LL DO IT.

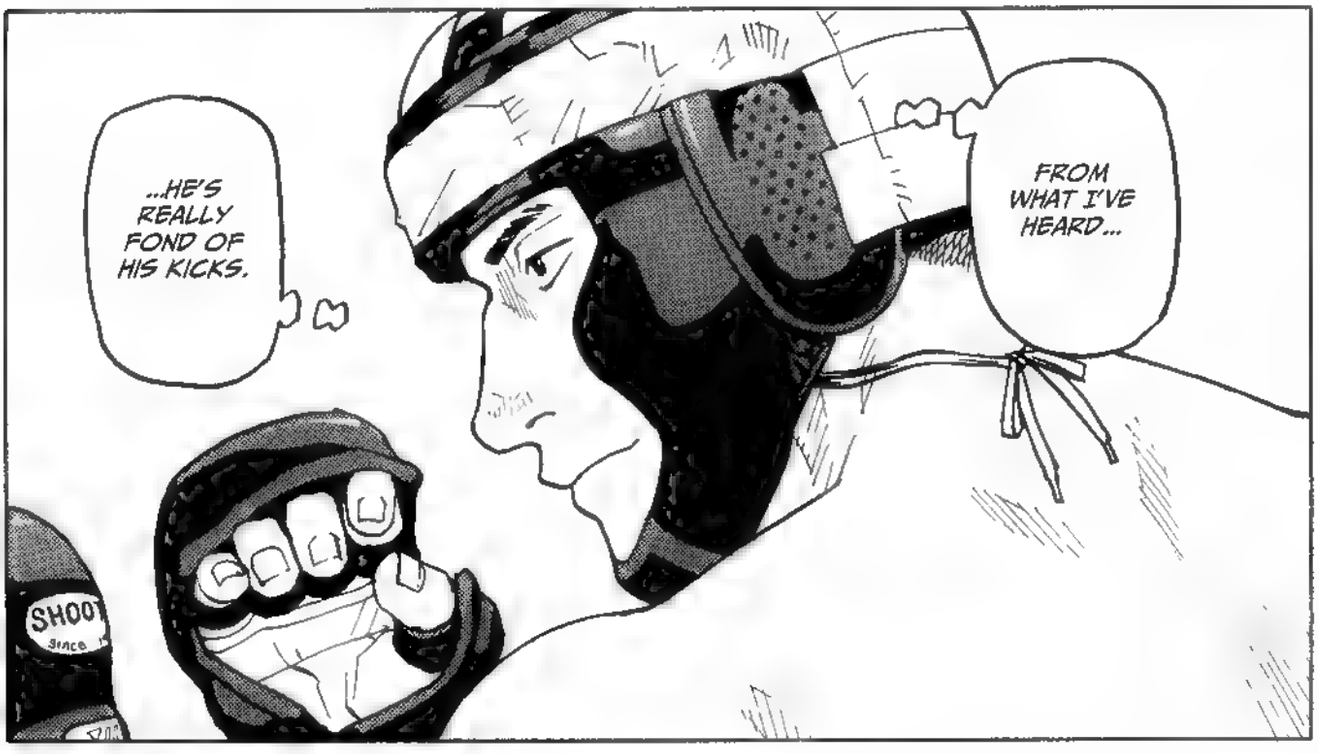

WAY TO GO, MARIA.
Good girl
PET PET
I'LL DO MIXED MARTIAL ARTS...
IT'S LIKE SHE'S TAMING A WILD ANIMAL...

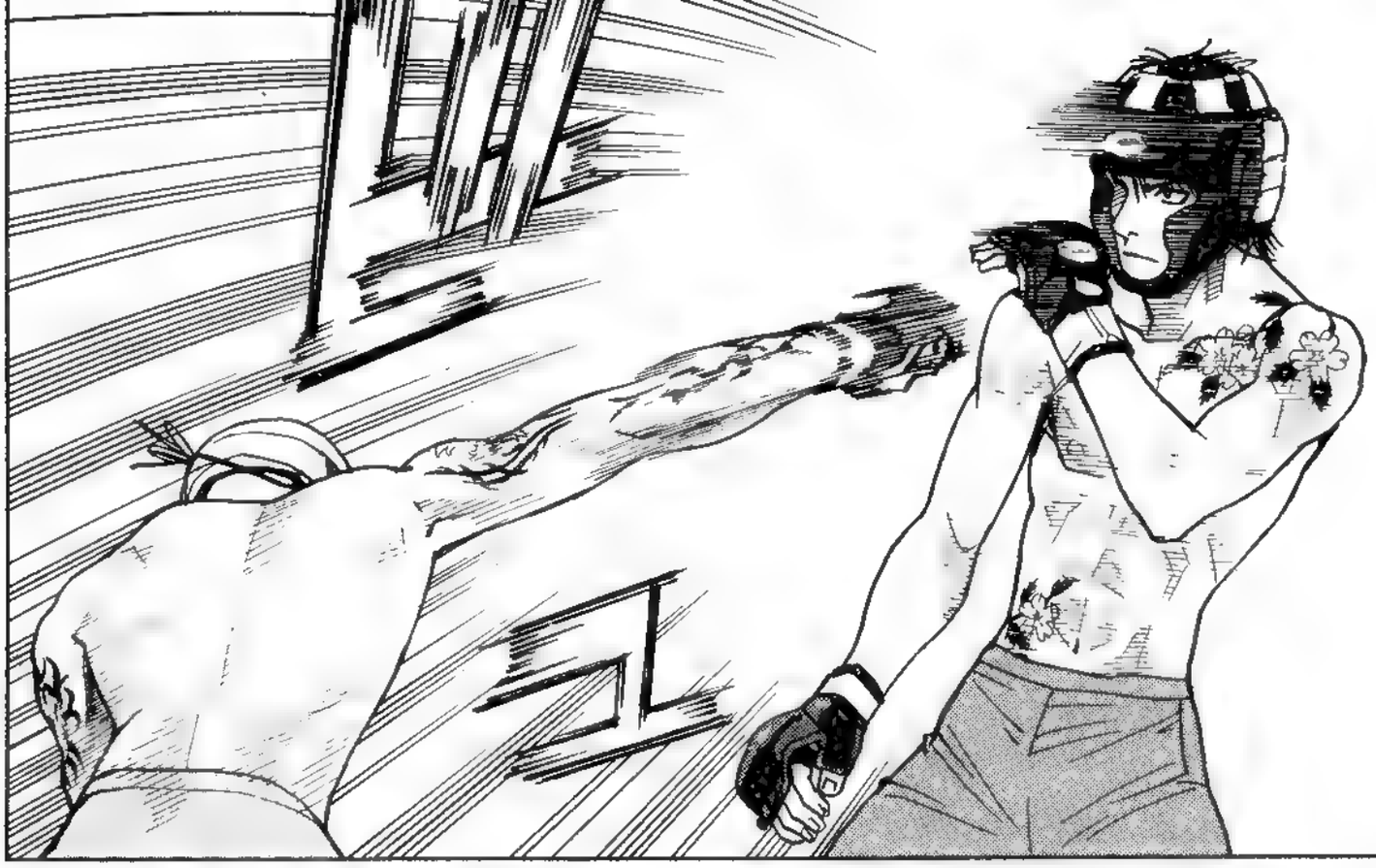

IN THE RED CORNER, FROM MMA DOJO KOGURE GYM...
MATCH 22, LIGHT-WEIGHT DIVISION, 2 ROUNDS!
!

...TAKUYA INAHARA!
AND IN THE BLUE CORNER, FROM GS ACADEMY...
...TAKASHI YAMABUKI!
SHOOTO
YAMABUKI'S UP AGAINST ANOTHER TOUGH ONE.
INAHARA...
...
WHAT KIND OF FIGHTER IS HE?
HE'S A STRIKER WHO MAINLY USES FULL CONTACT KARATE AND BOXING.
ANYWAY, THEY'RE BOTH BIG ON BLOWS, SO THEIR STYLES WILL PROBABLY MESH WELL...

THAT INAHARA GUY'S GOT A PRETTY VIOLENT TEMPER, THOUGH.
HE GOT IN A FIGHT WITH SOMEONE FROM A RIVAL GYM AFTER A MATCH ONE TIME.
OR YAMA-BUKI'S...
... KARATE AND MUAY THAI...?
HE SCORED A LOT OF KO'S USING A LEFT HOOK-BODY PUNCH COMBO.
WILL IT BE INAHARA'S KARATE AND BOXING?
TAKASHI'S LEFT MIDDLE KICK IS REALLY SOME-THING.
OH, MAKI.
WHAT? HE DOES MUAY THAI?


FIGHT!


..HE'S REALLY FOND OF HIS KICKS.
FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD...
SHOOT



SHOOTO
!

SKEEK

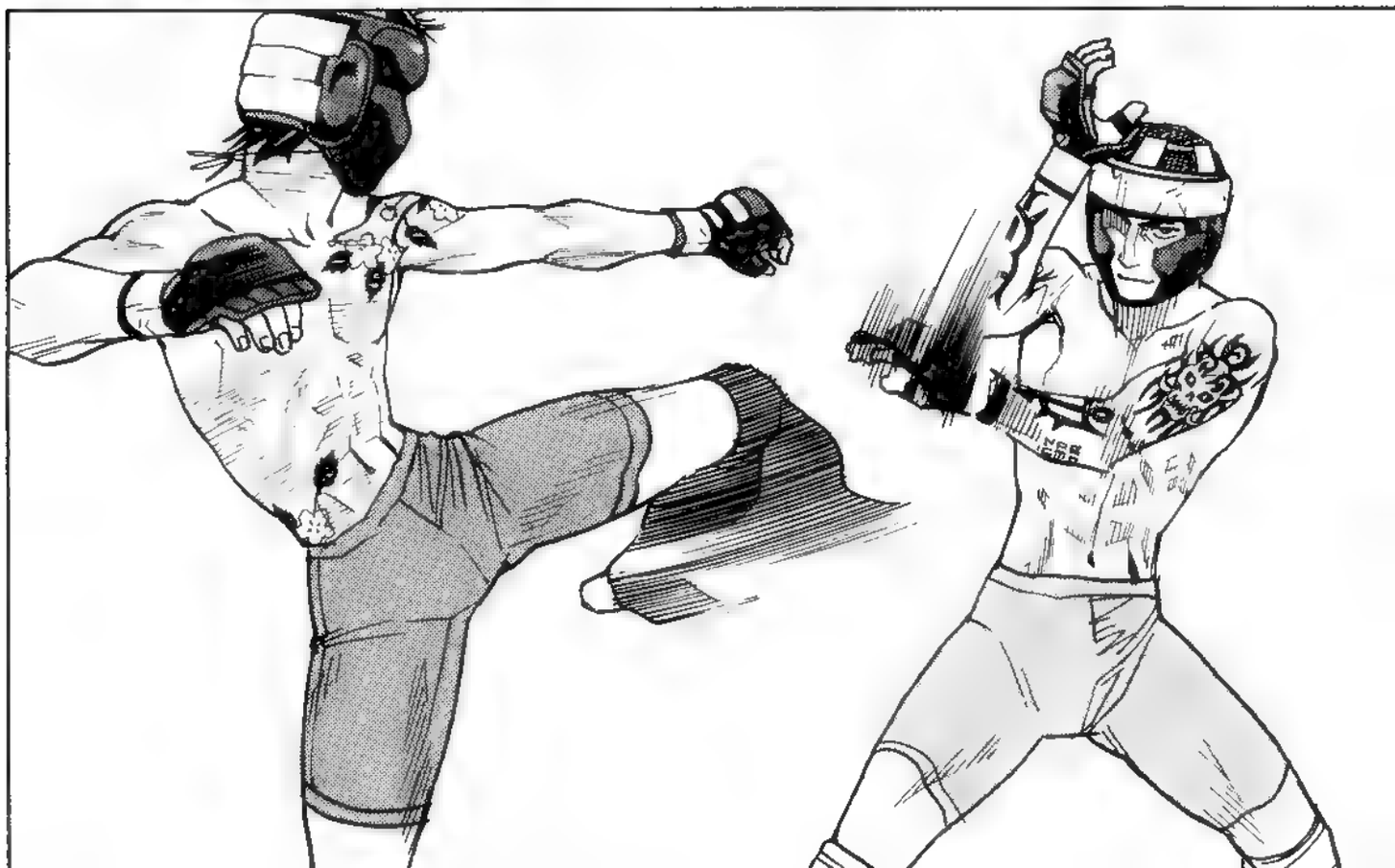
WHAT A SWING!
HE WENT STRAIGHT FOR A RIGHT?!

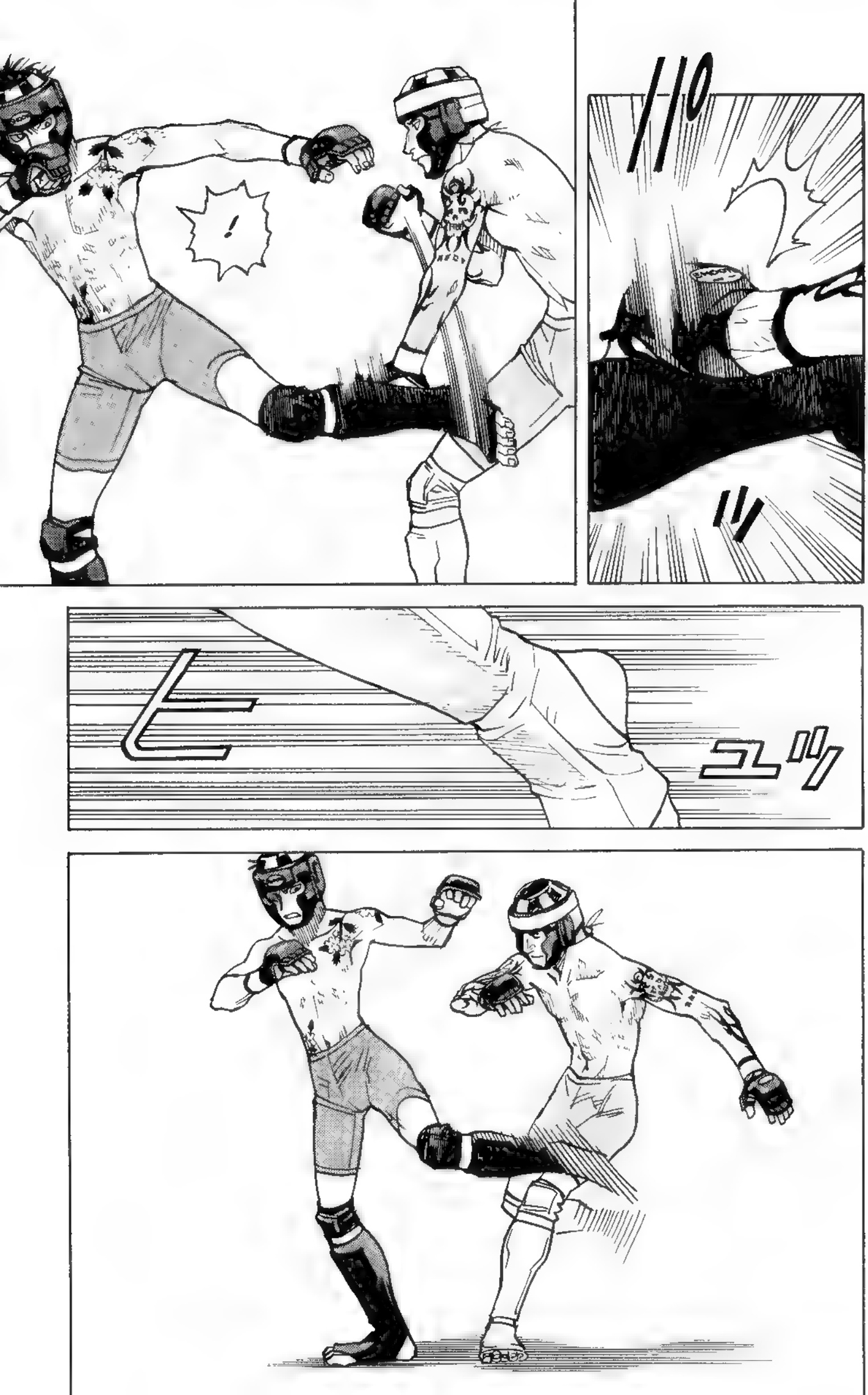
SHOOTO
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT GONNA COME IN FOR A TAKEDOWN...
SO I'M FREE TO DO COMBOS.
WOW!
HE DID A ONE-TWO-THREE-FOUR COMBO WHILE SWITCHING!
THAT'S KARATE FOOT-WORK.
YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR LOWER BODY FOR THAT...
WHOA!
HMM...
I KNOW, RIGHT?
DEFI-NITELY MORE MUAY THAI THAN KARATE.
THAT MIDDLE KICK'S REALLY POWERFUL.
HE CAN STOP ANYTHING WITH THAT.

SHE'S BACK...
OH, OUCH.
I KNEW YOU WERE A FAG. GROSS!
D'YOU ADORE HIM OR SOMETHING?
WHAT'RE YOU SO EXCITED ABOUT?

...I WAS GOOD AT DEALING WITH KICKS.
BUT WHEN I WAS DOING KARATE...
SHOOTO

...FOR AMATEUR SHOOTO.
THAT'S NOT A BAD LEFT MIDDLE...

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*A REAP OF THE OPPONENT'S SUPPORT LEG WHILE THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF EXECUTING A ROUNDHOUSE KICK.

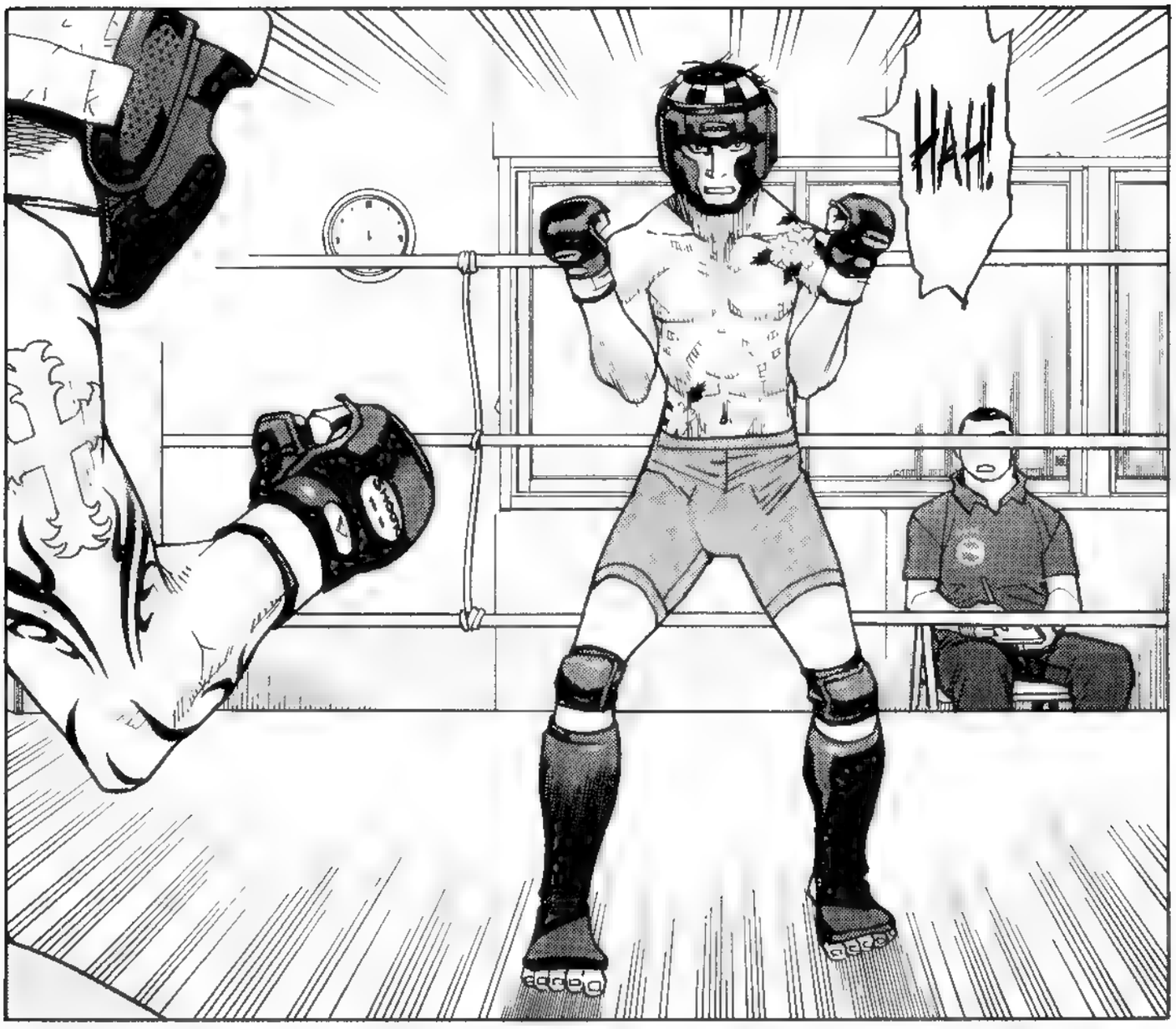
SMIRK

TIME!

SHOOTO

CAUTION!
BLUE! MINUS 3 POINTS FOR AN ILLEGAL GROUND PUNCH!
IF THIS WERE A STREET FIGHT I'D HAVE WHUPPED YOUR ASS!
HMPH!
...
SHOOTO
Yes, sir!
FOLLOW THE RULES!
ALTHOUGH... IF THIS WERE A PRO MATCH WHERE GROUND STRIKING IS ALLOWED YAMABUKI WOULD'VE BEEN KO'D.
HE DIDN'T LAND THAT PUNCH, BUT IT WAS DEFINITELY ILLEGAL.
FURUYA, THAT...
DUNNO HOW HE'S GONNA TAKE IT...

TAKASHI! DON'T GET MAD!
KEEP A COOL HEAD!
HE SEEMS LIKE THE TYPE TO FEEL INSULTED...
SHOOTO
...
...THAT IT WAS ONLY THE RULES THAT PROTECTED HIM, DOESN'T HE?
HUFF
スッ
FIGHT!


HAH!

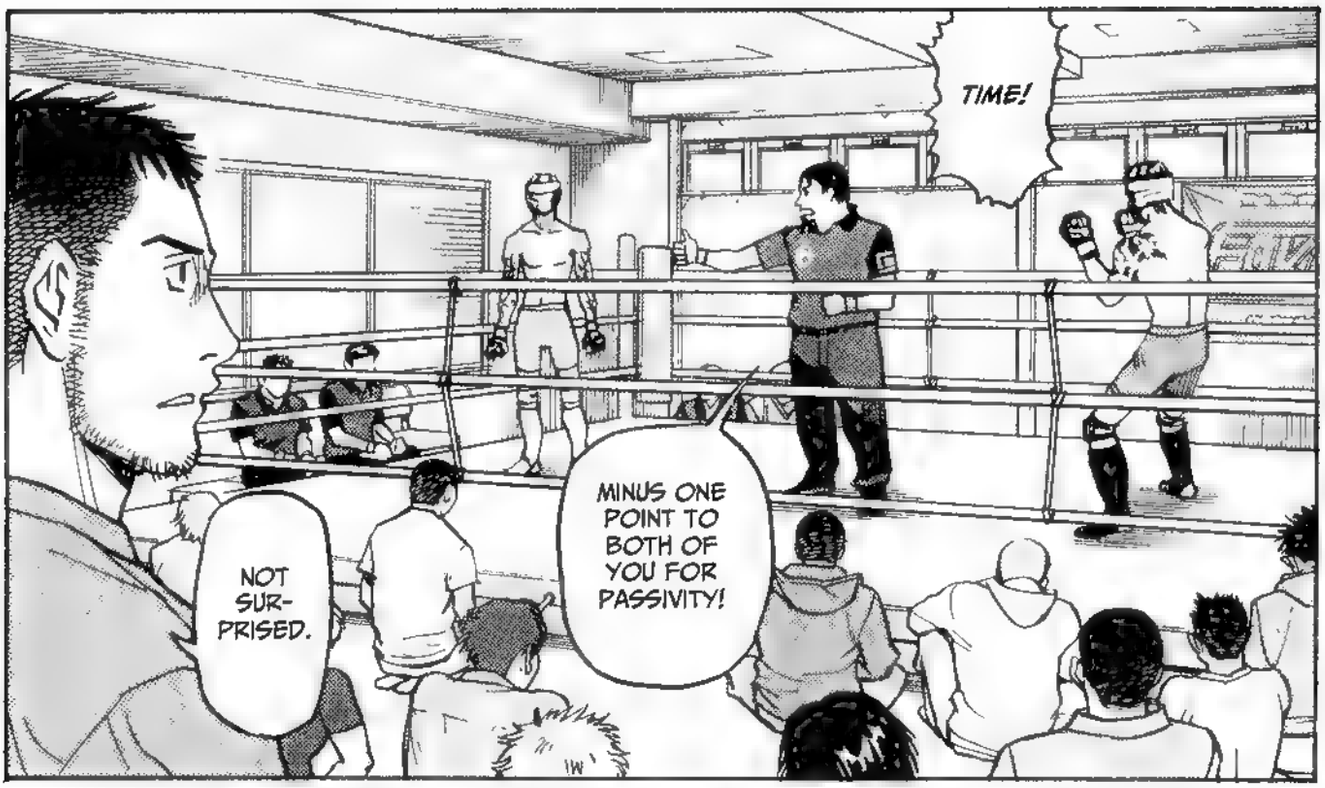
DOES HE REALLY THINK NON-CONTACT KARATE'LL WORK IN SHOOTO?
IS HE GOING TRADI-TIONAL?
SHOOTO

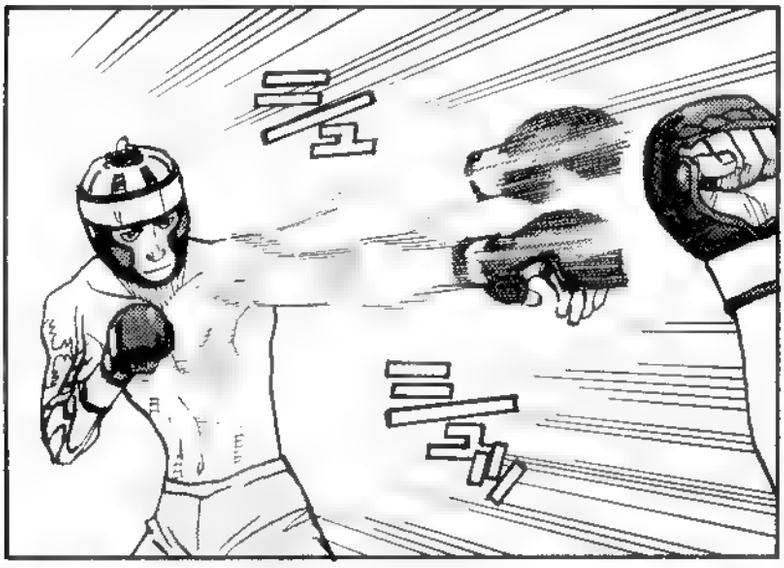
THAT STANCE...
?
WHAT THE HECK?!

Chapter 21 The End of the Contest

*SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/SANCHIN **SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/KARATE_KATA

HE'S GONNA KNOCK HIM DOWN...
...IN ONE BLOW...
HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO COUNTER ONCE THE GUY COMES AT HIM...
MEGURU, WHAT'S YAMABUKI UP TO?
HE'S NOT MOVING ...
HIS PLAN MIGHT LOOK GOOD ON PAPER...
BUT THIS IS A SHOOTO MATCH...
...I CAN FINISH HIM OFF WITH A COMBO.
EITHER WAY, IF I PARRY HIS FIRST SHOT...
...


TIME!
MINUS ONE POINT TO BOTH OF YOU FOR PASSIVITY!
NOT SUR-PRISED.



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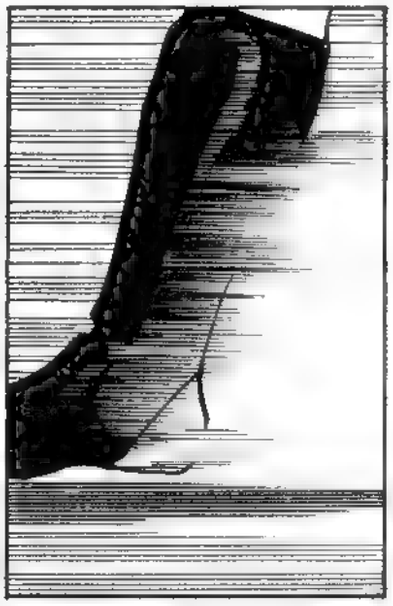
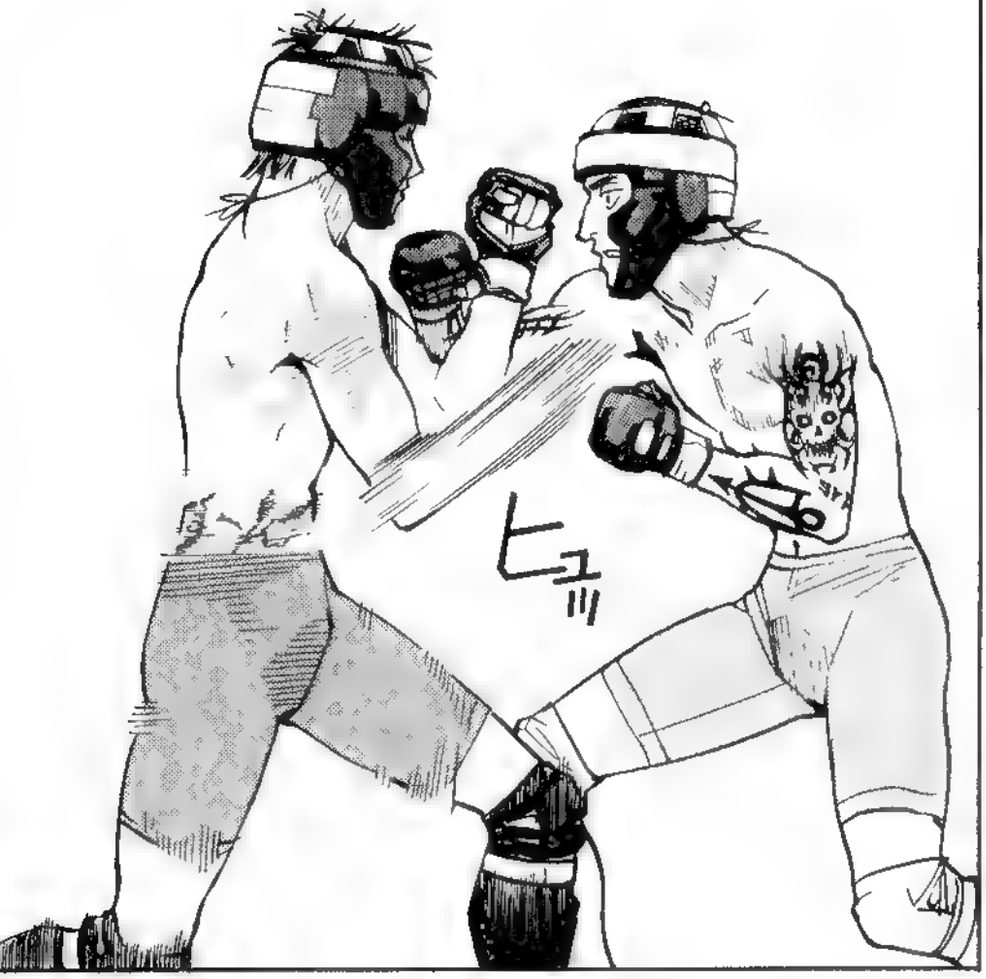


OK, SCREW THIS!
I'LL JUST TEST THE WATERS WITH A JAB...

WHOA!
HE CAME AT ME FIRST!
!!

A DOUBLE RIGHT HOOK!
IN THAT STANCE...
...YOU CAN'T SEE MY HOOK, CAN YOU?
ピ
タッ


ヒュッ

HUH?!

SHOOTO
SINCE 1985

SHIFT

SH
THAT UPPER-CUT...
...AGAIN!
WHUMP

カンカンカン
MATCH OVER!

ビー
IF HE'D USED A LIVER SHOT, YOU WOULD'VE BEEN KO'D.
YOU'RE LUCKY HE CAME AT YOU WITH A LEFT REVERSE PUNCH.

DON'T MAKE HIM GET UP RIGHT AWAY!
TAKE OFF HIS HEAD-GEAR.

WHY'D HE GO DOWN?
THAT UPPERCUT LOOKED LIKE IT BARELY GRAZED HIM.

...BUT I STILL COLLAPSED ON THE SPOT...
I'M PRETTY SURE HE WAS HOLDING BACK...
IT WAS LIKE THE SHOCK OF THE IMPACT TORE RIGHT THROUGH MY BACK...

*A TECHNIQUE USED BY KARATE PRACTITIONERS TO BREAK A STACK OF BRICKS WITHOUT L.FTING THEIR HAND UP INTO THE AIR.
**A CONCEPT IN TRADIT.ONAL OKINAWAN KARATE DESCRIB.NG THE POWER THAT OCCURS WHEN JSING THE MIND AND BODY IN A SPONTANEOUS ACTION CREATING MAX.MJM IMPACT WITH MIN.MJM EFFORT.

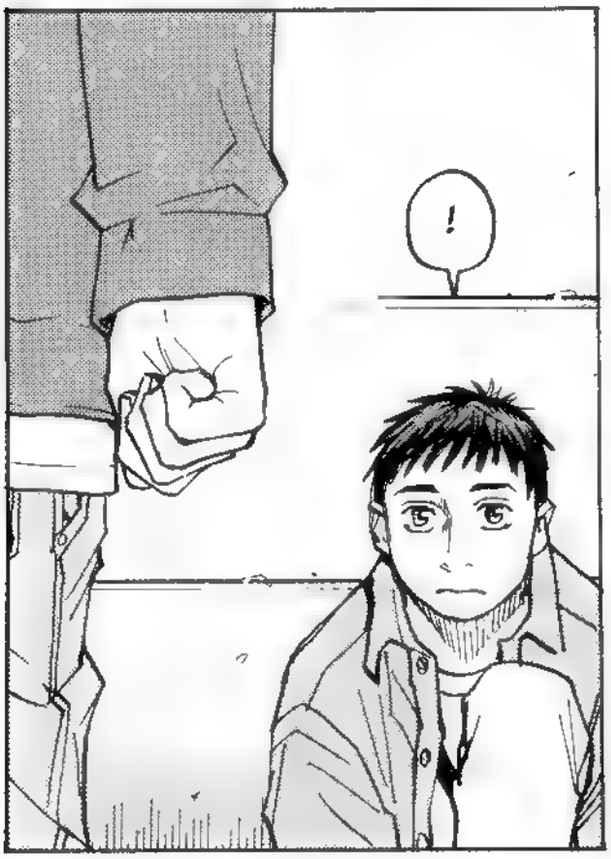
...BUT HE'S STILL IN HIS TEENS...
...AND HE'S ALREADY TRYING TO BRING ABOUT A RENAIS-SANCE?
HE'S ONE TO WATCH.
THAT'S AN ANCIENT OKINAWAN TECH-NIQUE...
IT'S TRUE THAT WITH MIXED MARTIAL ARTS...
...YOU CAN IMPROVISE WITH ALL SORTS OF STYLES...
AHEM... WE SAW SEVERAL FOULS HERE TODAY...
...SO I WANT THE RESPEC-TIVE GYMS TO PLEASE WATCH YOUR COACHING!
WE WILL NOT TOLERATE FIGHTERS WHO CAN'T ABIDE BY THE RULES.
!

!
OH...
MS. KAMIYA ...
...
UM... EX-CUSE ME...
BYE...
...
I'M... PLANNING ON ENTERING THE ALL-JAPAN CHAMPIONSHIP AS A BANTAMWEIGHT (56 KG)...
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

...NOBE-OKA, WAS IT?
GREAT, SEE YOU THEN!
WHY SHOOTO?
I USUALLY WEIGH AROUND 58 KG, SO...
WELL...
...SO HERE I AM.
BUT I WANTED TO MAKE USE OF WHAT I'VE LEARNED...
...
I SUCK AT IT...
OH... MY SISTER AND BROTHER BOTH DO JUDO...
HUH?
WHY DO YOU DO SHOOTO?
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

UM, WELL...
MY... SIBLINGS ARE ALL A BUNCH OF JUVIES...
SO...

...I WANTED TO DO SOME-THING... RESPECT-ABLE?
...
I GUESS?
YOU GUESS?


!

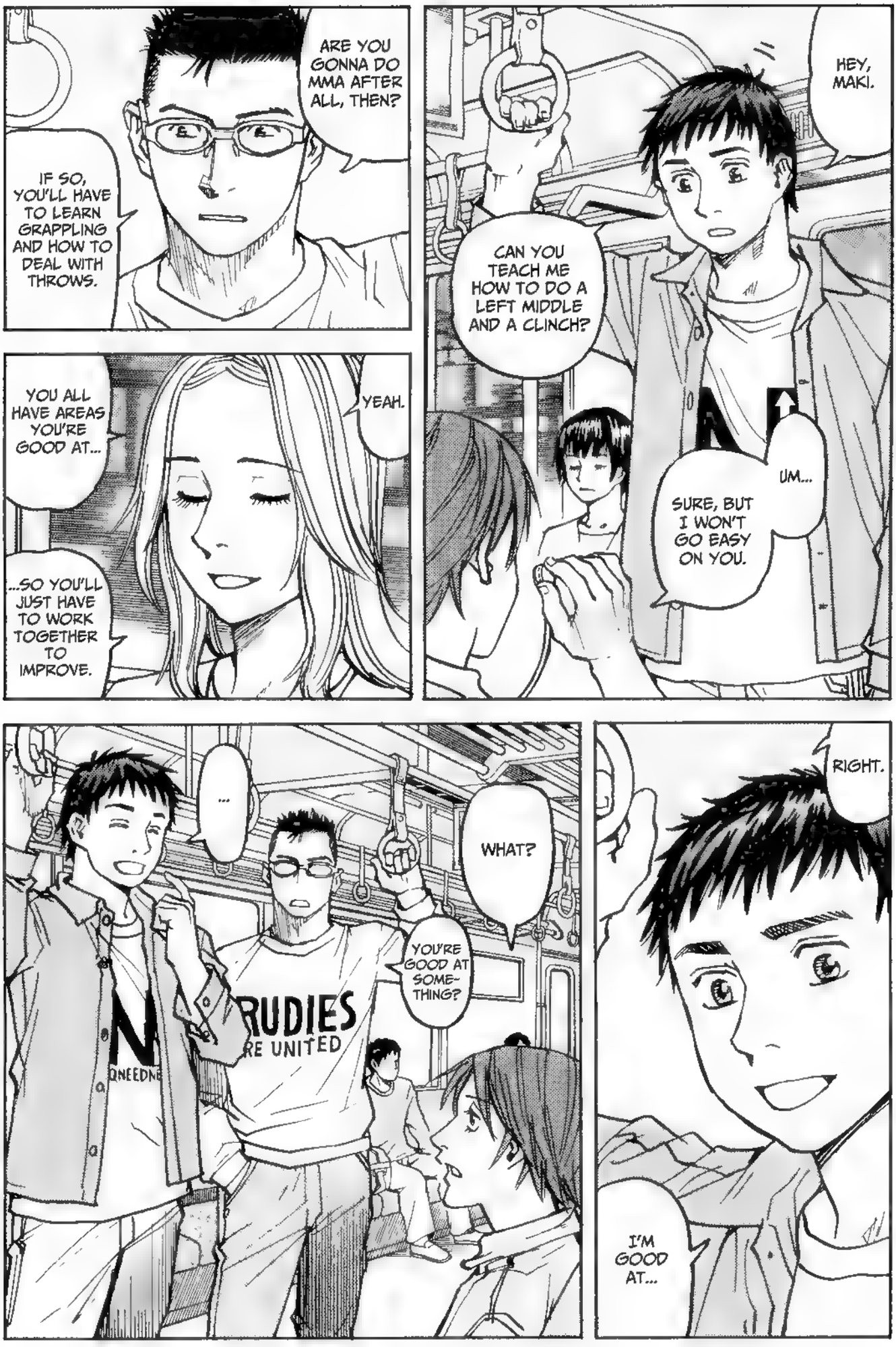
PURBRED
URBRED

AT LEAST YOU WON ONE MATCH.
ARE YOU...
...TRYING FOR THE ALL-JAPAN CHAMPION-SHIP?
...
WAH!
!
...I'M GOING TO BE A WELTER-WEIGHT (70 KG).
SEE YA.
...AND BECOME A PRO...
WHEN I WIN THAT CHAMPION-SHIP...
HUH ...? UH...
YEAH.

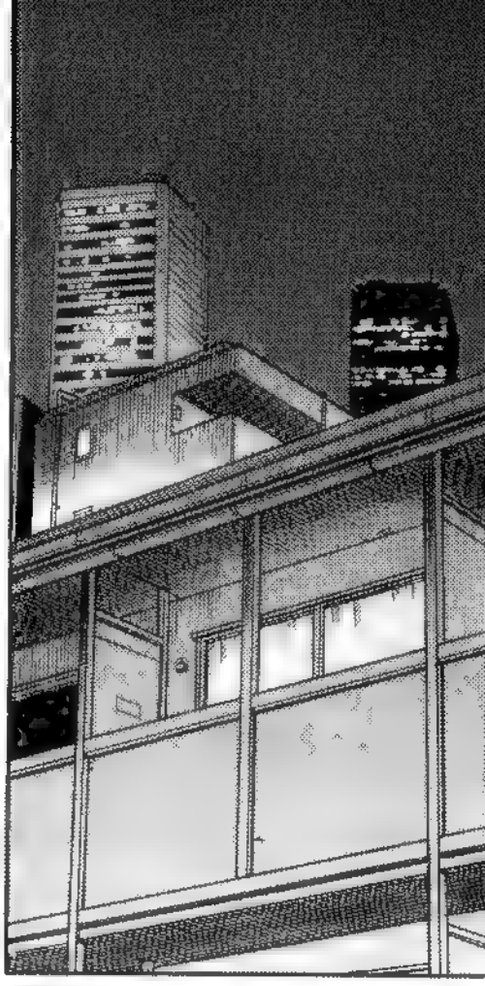
NONEEDN

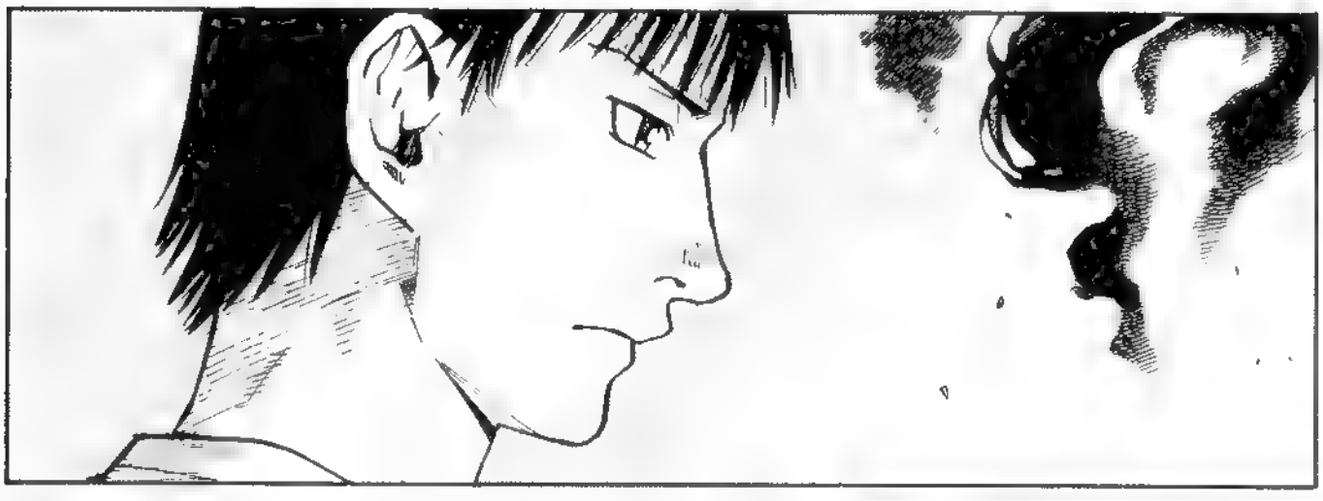
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS ?
CAR
RUDIES
LUCKY THEM

But *how* can I beat him?
Maybe if I take the fight to the ground...
If Takashi's going to be a welter-weight...
...the only chance I'll have to fight him again is as an amateur while he's still a light-weight...
Besides, in a close fight, there's also his clinch and that weird uppercut to worry about...
But I have to do something about that left middle kick first.
Oh, right.
Forget about the uppercut ...


ARE YOU GONNA DO MMA AFTER ALL, THEN?
IF SO, YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN GRAPPLING AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THROWS.
HEY, MAKI.
CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO DO A LEFT MIDDLE AND A CLINCH?
UM...
SURE, BUT I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU.
YEAH.
YOU ALL HAVE AREAS YOU'RE GOOD AT...
...SO YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE.
...
WHAT?
YOU'RE GOOD AT SOME-THING?
RIGHT.
I'M GOOD AT...

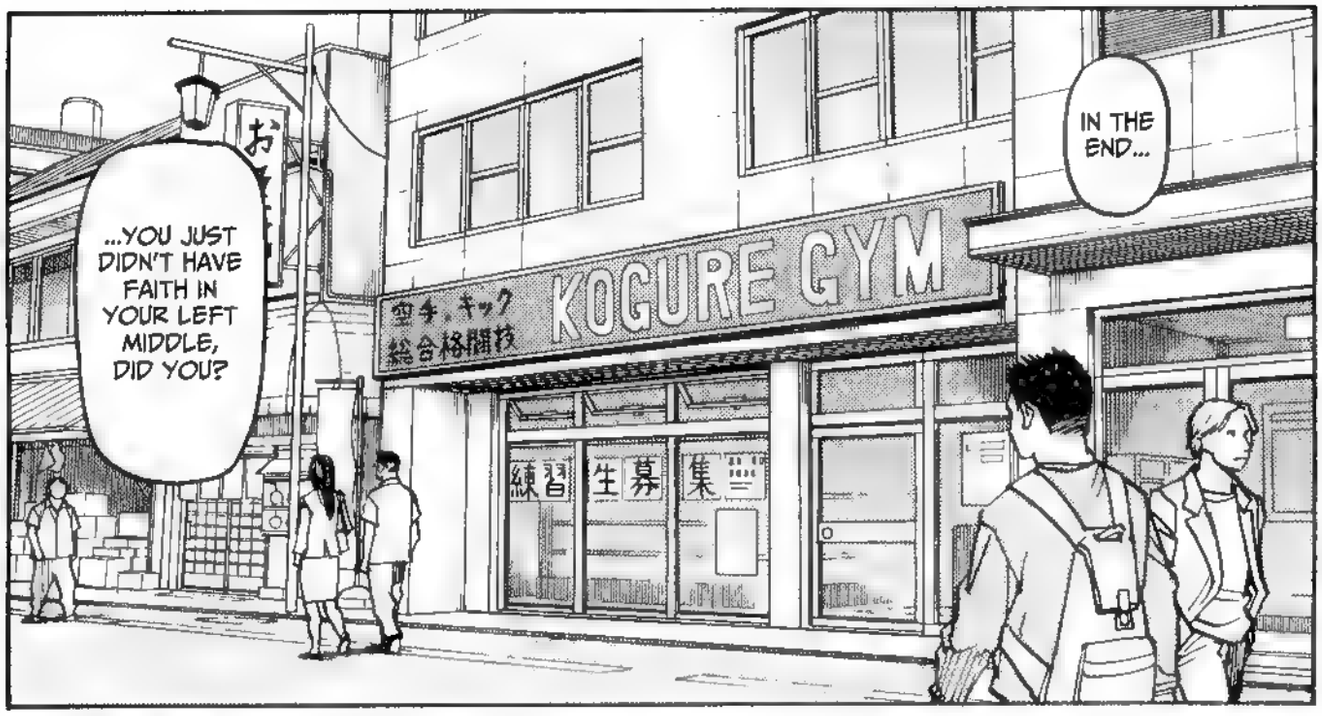
COME ON, YOU WON TODAY, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU COPIED THE GUY'S MOVE.
-SNIFF-
-SNIFF-
RUDIES
I WON...
THAT'S RIGHT ...
YEAH.
YEAH ?
YOU WON VIA SUB-MIS-SION.
RUDIES
EASY, EASY, MAKI!
I'M GONNA SOCK YOU!
NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING CREEPY.
I WON...
A SUB-MIS-SION...
I WON...
Hehe
Hehe

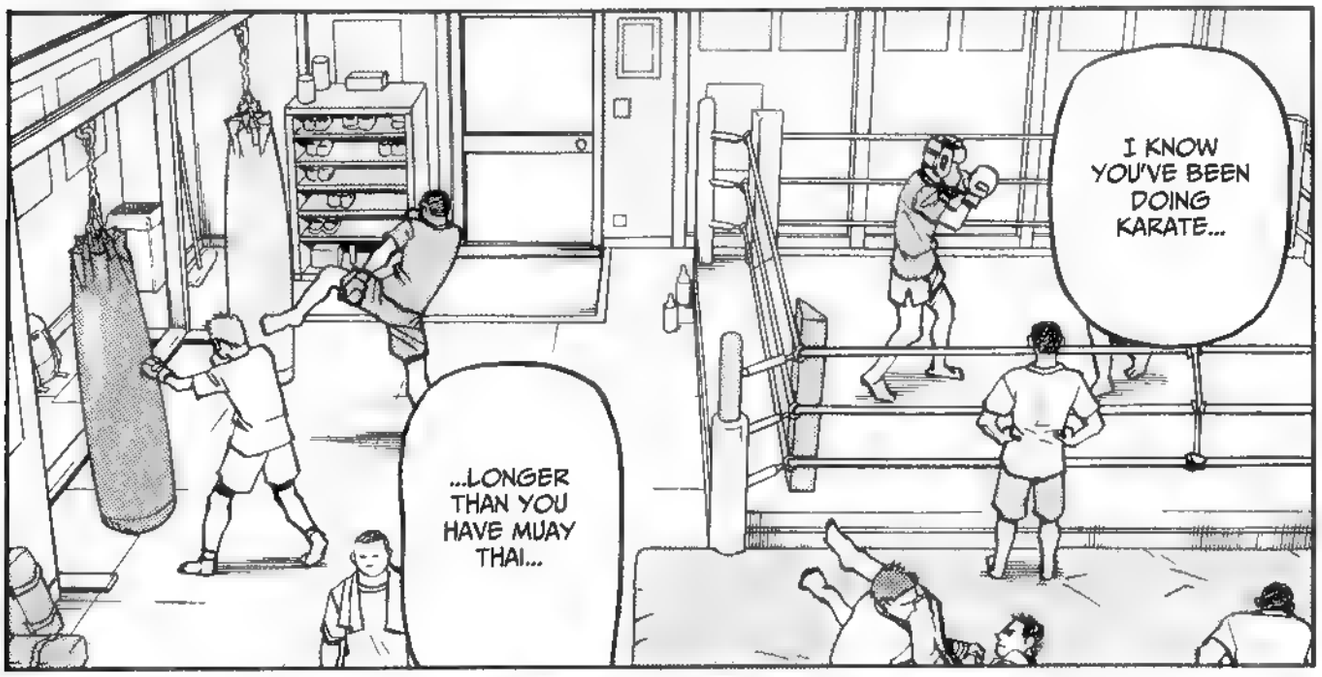




STARTLED
Hee hee!
I... WON.
I WON ...
THAT'S CREEPY.
MEGURU ...

Chapter 22 | Line (Part 1)


IN THE END...
...YOU JUST DIDN'T HAVE FAITH IN YOUR LEFT MIDDLE, DID YOU?
空手・キック
総合格闘技
KOGURE GYM
練習生募集


I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN DOING KARATE...
...LONGER THAN YOU HAVE MUAY THAI...

YOU CAN ONLY DO A FRONT KICK FROM THE *SANCHIN* STANCE.
...BUT I THOUGHT YOUR PREFERRED STYLE WAS A KO WITH A HIGH KICK?

YOU MAY HAVE WON THIS TIME...
...BUT IF YOUR OPPONENT HAD BEEN A GOOD GRAPPLER YOU JUST AS EASILY COULD HAVE LOST.
I KNOW.
...
TSUKI-SADA.
BOSS.
HAS HE SEEMED A LITTLE DOWN TO YOU LATELY?
WELL, HE'S YOUNG. I'M SURE HE HAS HIS WORRIES...
APPAR-ENTLY HE DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL ...

!
HONK HONK
HE'S TALENTED...
...BUT AS LONG AS HE'S NOT MY PRIVATE PUPIL, I CAN'T INTERFERE WITH HIS PERSONAL LIFE.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
K HOSPI-TAL.
MIYUKI ...
I HAVE TO GET TO WORK...
WHICH CLUB?

AVALON ON THIRD STREET.
GIVE THEM MY NAME AND TELL THEM YOU'LL BE LATE.

HER NAME IS MEI.
SHE'S BEEN WORKING FOR ME FOR A LONG TIME...
SHE FELL FOR A BAD GUY AND STARTED WORKING AT HIS CLUB.
HE GOT HER HOOKED ON UPPERS...
RYO KOJIMA.
THIS IS HIM.
HE GOT MAD AT HER AND HAD HER KIDNAPPED...
THIS GUY'S GANG IS ONE OF TETSUO'S AFFILIATES...
...SO TETSUO CAN'T EXACTLY USE HIS OWN PEOPLE.
...
HE DID THIS TO HER.
AND HE'S A REAL SADIST.

I'M NOT GOING TO BE AN ERRAND BOY FOR THE YAKUZA.
SO...
NO THANK YOU.
HEY, YOU SPILLED BEER ON MY PANTS!

...
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE?! GET ME YOUR MANAGER!
OH, MY BAD.
FUCK!
FLAP
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
WHAT KIND OF PLACE ARE YOU RUNNING HERE?!
WHAT'D THE BOSS SAY?
YUJI...
OH, YOU ON BREAK, TAKASHI?

JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...
WEEELL ...
D'YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PROS-PECTS?
I TOLD HIM I'M QUITTING.
DOESN'T MATTER.
...
WHOOPS.
CAN'T SAY ANYTHING MORE.
ME AND TWO OF MY BUDDIES ...
...I GOT A BIG JOB WITH THE GANG THAT RUNS THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD.
IF WE PULL THIS OFF, THEY'LL LET US JOIN.
HOW OLD ARE YOU ANYWAY, TAKASHI?
SEVEN-TEEN.
DUDE, THAT'S THE SAME AGE AS MY LITTLE SISTER.

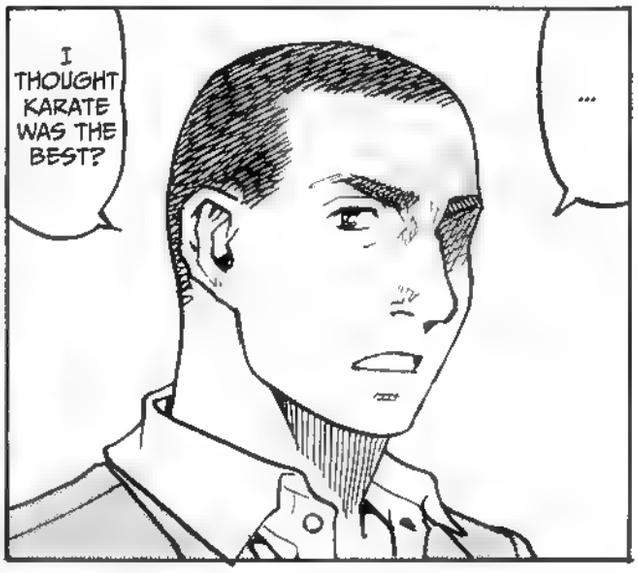
YOU, TOO?
...WHAT?
I HEARD YOU QUIT SCHOOL.
WHAT A WASTE, MAN. YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR PARENTS CRY?
...MY PARENTS ARE DEAD.
I WANT HER TO GO TO COLLEGE AT LEAST...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW IF SHE CAN GET A SCHOLARSHIP.
MY FOLKS DIED IN A CAR CRASH WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH.
I'M ALL RIGHT, BUT MY LITTLE SISTER...
...SHE HAS IT PRETTY TOUGH LIVING WITH OUR RELATIVES...

SEE YA.
GOOD LUCK
I DON'T DRINK...
HERE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. JUST TAKE IT.
SCREECH

...

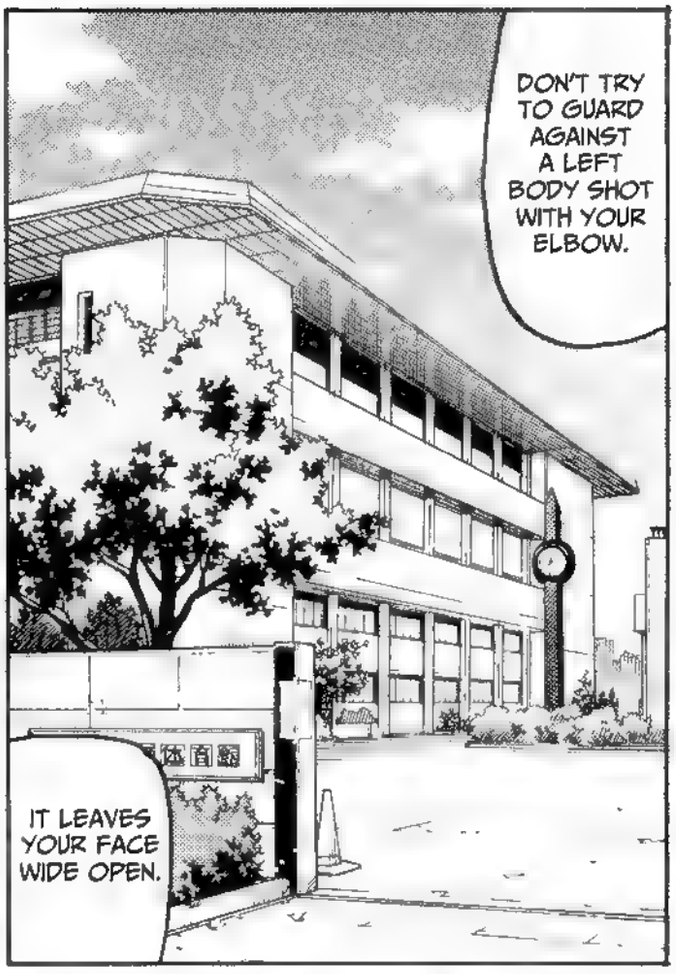
I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME HOW TO BOX.
I'M WORKING NOW.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT, SAVE IT FOR LATER.

ESPECIALLY THAT LEFT BODY SHOT OF YOURS.
I CAN'T SEE HOOKS COMING.

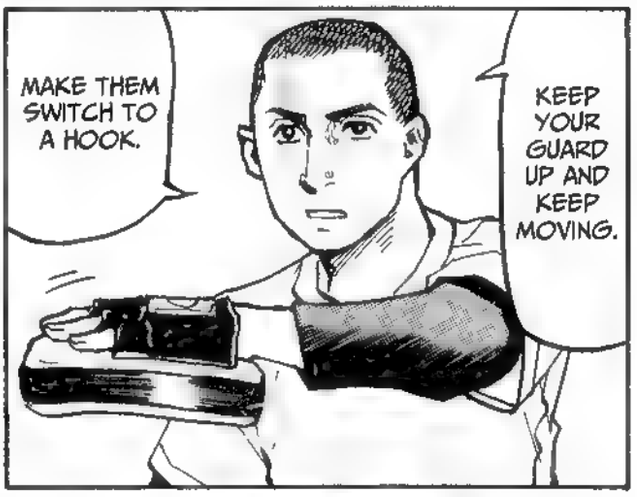

I THOUGHT KARATE WAS THE BEST?
...

I DON'T HAVE MONEY FOR A GYM.
THERE ARE PLENTY OF GUYS BETTER THAN ME.
THEN GO TO A BOXING GYM.
BESIDES ...
...I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME.
...
I HAVEN'T TALKED TO MY UNCLE.
...WHAT ABOUT MY BOSS?
...
JEEZ.
SO THIS IS VOLUNTEER WORK...?

YOU'VE GOTTA DODGE WITH A BACKSTEP.
WHAT IF THEY HAD ME CORNERED?


DON'T TRY TO GUARD AGAINST A LEFT BODY SHOT WITH YOUR ELBOW.
IT LEAVES YOUR FACE WIDE OPEN.

THAT'S IT! A RIGHT DOUBLE!


MAKE THEM SWITCH TO A HOOK.
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP AND KEEP MOVING.

OR STEP FORWARD FOR A CLINCH.
IF YOU CAN CLOSE THE DISTANCE, YOU'LL MANAGE SOMEHOW.

...
YOU KNOW HIM?
CHO.
DO YOU KNOW A GUY NAMED RYO KOJIMA?
HE'S CRAZY. SWEPT INTO TOWN WITH HIS ESCORT SERVICE AND UPPERS.
THEY SAY HE USES A KNIFE.
NO.
EVEN HIS OWN GANG SHUNS HIM.
...AND EVEN WE THINK HE'S A LOWLIFE SCUM...
...
TAKASHI ...
STAY AWAY FROM HIM.
I'M YAKUZA ...

SAKE
CUP
SEKI
...
Miyuki
...
HELLO
?
DING-
A-
LING
TAP
TAP

...THAT I REFUSED?
WHO TOOK THAT JOB...
...IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TO ASK?
DON'T YOU KNOW...
TAKASHI.
...I'll owe you one.
YOU DON'T WANT TO OWE FAVORS TO SOMEONE LIKE ME.

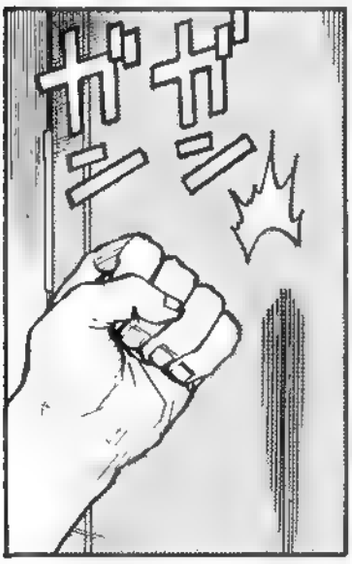
OVER THERE.
SCREECH

Chapter 23 Line (Part 2)

...WHAT?!
YOU WANNA CUT US OFF?
D'YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WE'VE PAID YOU?!
DO YOU ?!

...WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THESE GUYS...?
AND...
GARK
FUCKING DICK-HEADS WERE LYING IN WAIT...
...SO THEY COULD KIDNAP ME?!
ISN'T THAT HILARI-OUS?!
ONCE I GOT MY HANDS ON THEM, THEY WERE QUICK TO SPIT IT OUT!
HUH ?!
UNGH !
THAT'S ONE OF YOUR GANGS, AIN'T IT?! YOU'D BETTER MAKE IT UP TO ME!
THEY SAID KEIYUKAI SENT THEM!

MIYUKI,
I'LL NEED SOME CASH.
...
YOU'D BETTER PAY ME BACK.
I'M A KARATE-KA.
YOU'RE JUST GONNA WALK IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR?


ガガ
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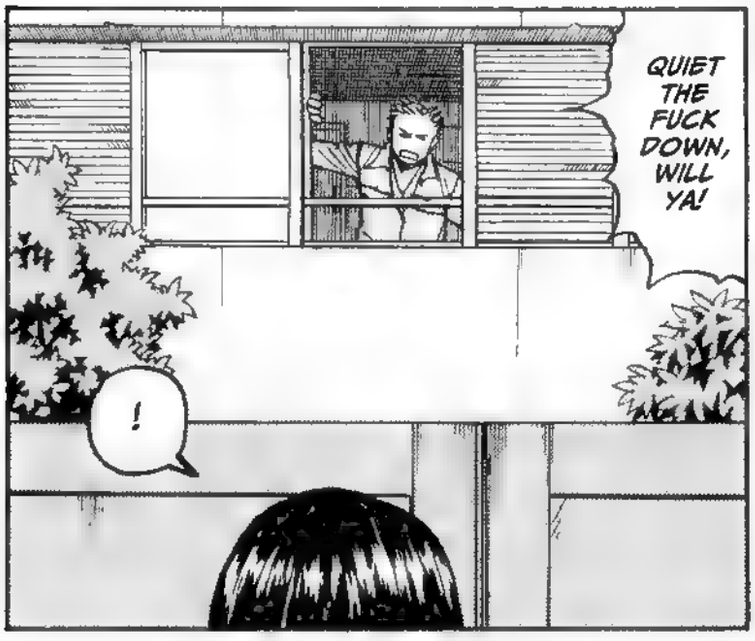
...

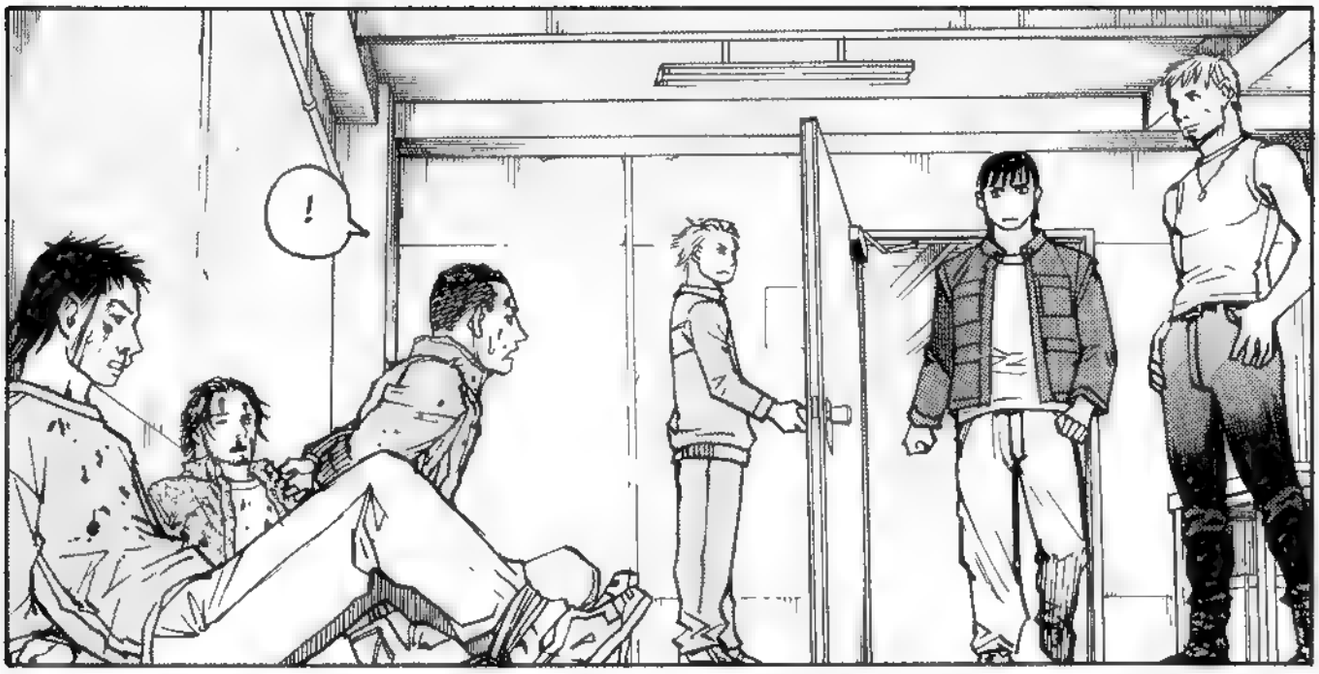
KONG
KONG
KONG


QUIET THE FUCK DOWN, WILL YA!
!

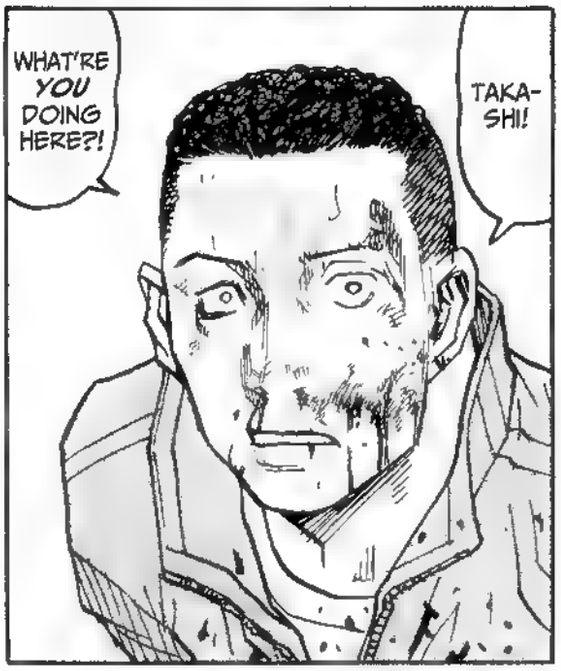
TETSUO YAMA-BUKI FROM THE KEIYUKAI ...
...IS MY UNCLE.
I NEED TO SEE RYO KOJIMA.
HUH?
WELL, MR. KOJIMA AIN'T GOT TIME TO SEE YOU, NUMBNUTS.
!
...HANG ON.

ガチャ
COME IN.

I WANT YUJI OKI BACK.
HUH?
NEVER HEARD OF HIM.
HEY... GUESS I SHOULD SAY NICE TO MEET YA.
WHAT'S THE BOSS' NEPHEW WANT WITH ME?
WILL YOU GIVE HIM BACK NOW?
OH YEAH.
NOW I REMEM-BER HIM...
...


!

...TO HAVE SUCH A GOOD FRIEND...
YOU'RE LUCKY, YUJI...


WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!
TAKA-SHI!

...

I WANT THE OTHER TWO BACK AS WELL.
OH, YOU DO?
FLOP
BETTER BRING ANOTHER TWO OF THESE, THEN.
THAT'S ALL THE MONEY I HAVE.
HEY, NOW.
YOU ASKED FOR YUJI OKI BACK.

ヒュ
I DON'T THINK SO.
I'M TAKING ALL THREE OF THEM.
HIS TWO FRIENDS WILL COST EXTRA.
...
...FOR THE MONEY FOR THE OTHER TWO.
ASK YOUR UNCLE...

WHAT THE FUCK?!
WHA--
YOU BASTAAARD!

NOWADAYS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ASK...
...WHAT THE POINT OF KARATE IS.
FOR EXAMPLE, THE SANCHIN STANCE...
...IS DONE LIKE THIS... WITH YOUR HANDS IN SPEAR HAND POSITION.
NOT A FIST?
NO.
OF COURSE, YOU'LL BREAK YOUR FINGERS IF YOU DO IT WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING.
USING THE TIPS OF THE FINGERS YOU AIM FOR THE EYES, THROAT, AND RIBS.
...
OLDER FORMS OF KARATE DON'T USE ROUNDHOUSE KICKS, ONLY FRONT KICKS THAT AIM DIRECTLY FOR THE CROTCH.

GAGH!
KAPF!
ARGH!

THUD

IN A KARATE KATA, AFTER DEFLECTING YOUR OPPONENT'S ATTACK...
I'M SURE YOU'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE.
IT'S ILLEGAL IN COMPETITION.
CAN YOU USE THAT IN A REAL FIGHT?
AND MOST PEOPLE PROBABLY COULDN'T PULL IT OFF IN A REAL FIGHT.
...AND YOU CAN GET HIM IN THE EYES AND THE CROTCH AT THE SAME TIME.
...YOU THRUST...
IF YOU STICK TO COUNTER ATTACKS...
BUT THERE'S ONE MESSAGE YOU CAN TAKE FROM IT.

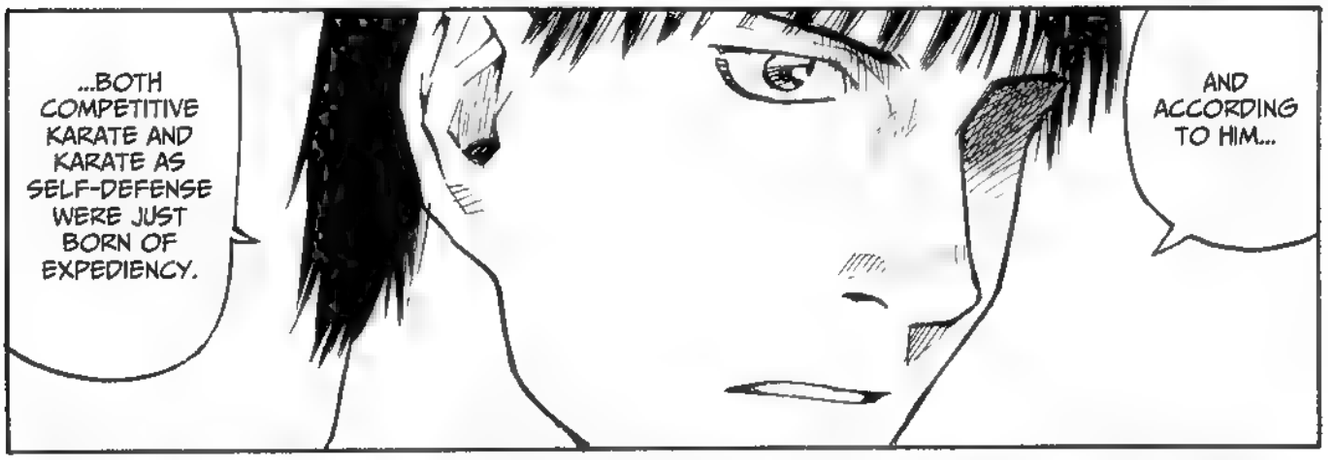
ドゴ
...YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO BREAK YOUR OPPONENT.
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!
YOU BAS-TARD...
!
UNNT ...
ヒュッ

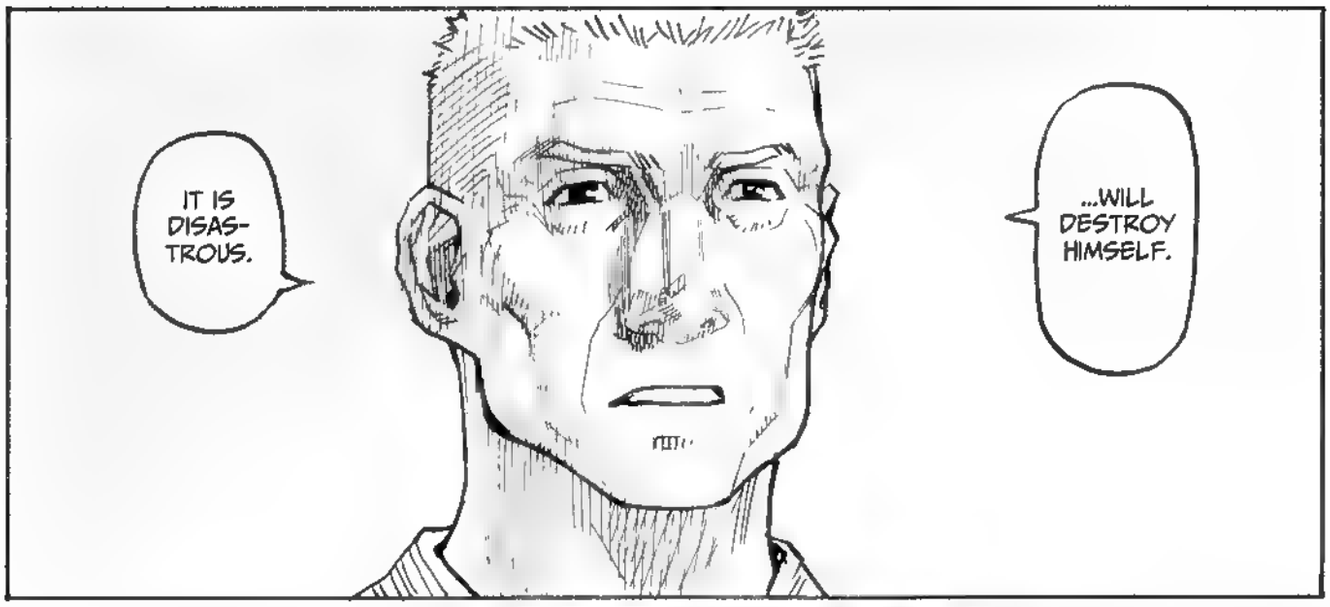
ヒュッ
HUNGH!

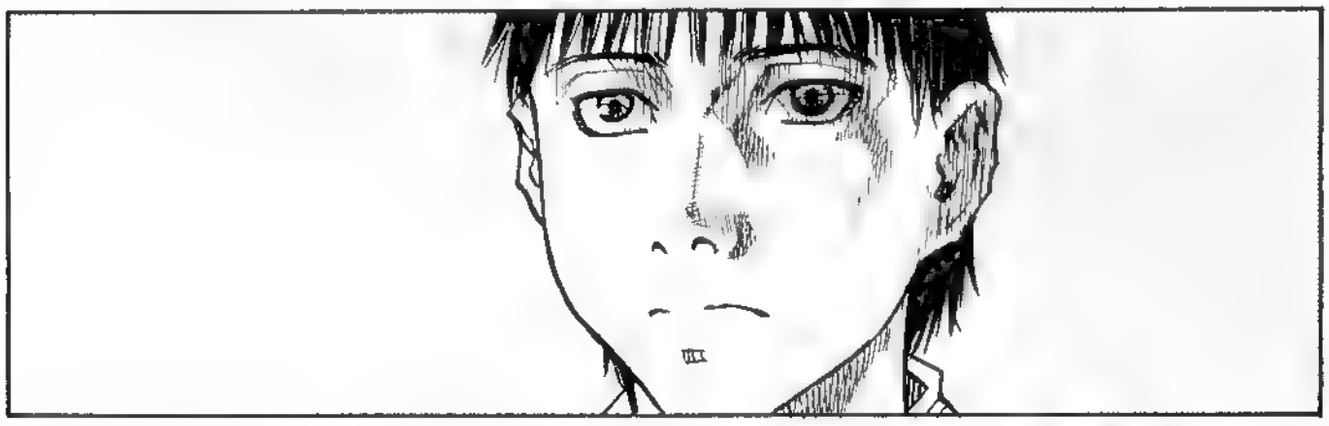
あ
EYAAGH
!
ギュン
ゴギッ
ガッ
ヒュッ

*BOTH *NAHA-TE* AND *SHURI-TE* ARE TYPES OF MARTIAL ARTS INDIGENOUS TO THE AREAS OF THE SAME NAMES ON OK.NAWA. FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/OKINAWAN_MART,AL_ARTS.

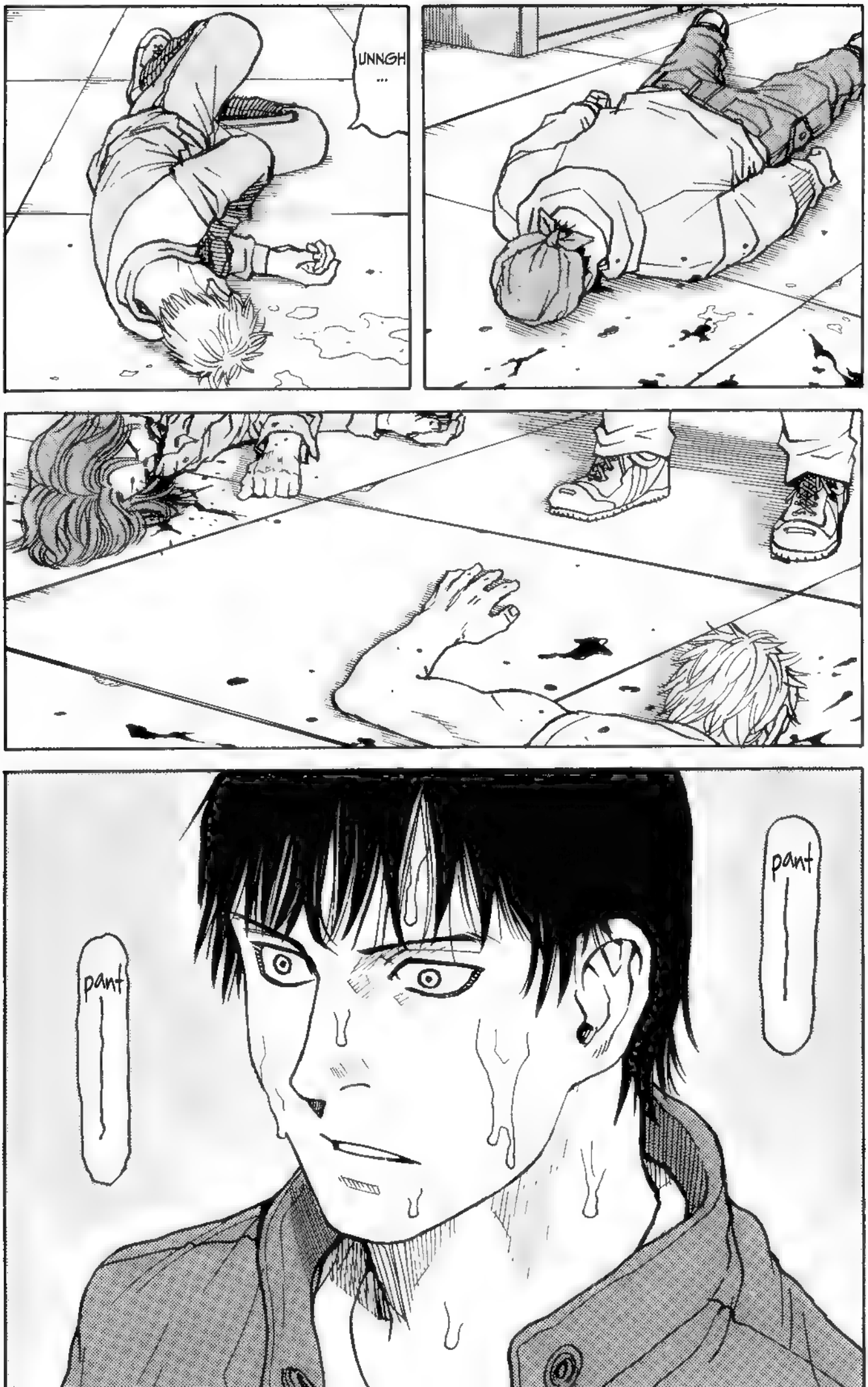
MY GRANDPA'S STYLE WAS *NAHA-TE**...
BUT EVEN IF YOU STICK TO COUNTER ATTACKS, YOU COULD STILL BE LIABLE FOR EXCESSIVE SELF-DEFENSE, RIGHT?
...BUT HE ALSO STUDIED *SHURI-TE** AND OTHER EARLY STYLES.

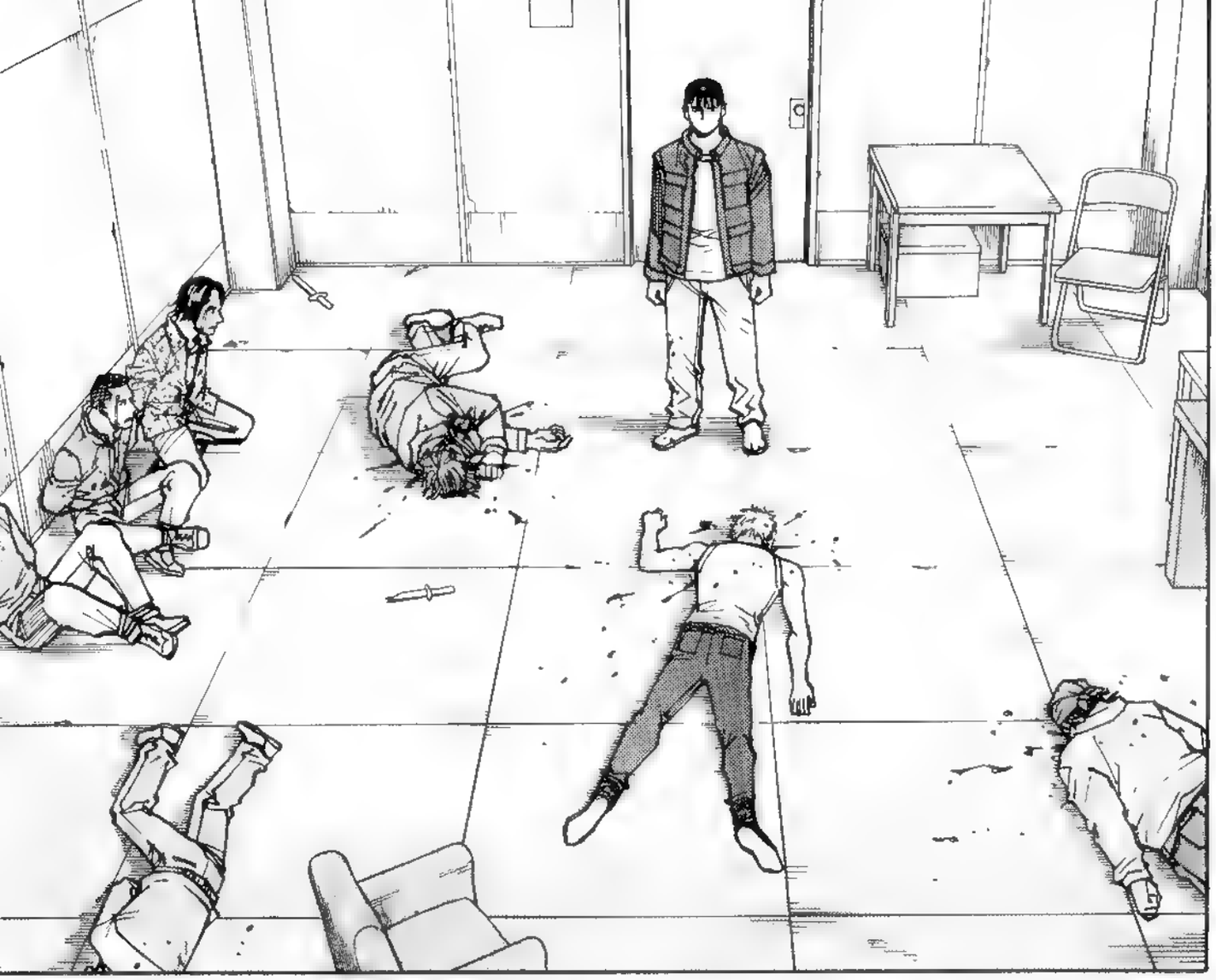



IT IS DISAS-TROUS.
...WILL DESTROY HIMSELF.

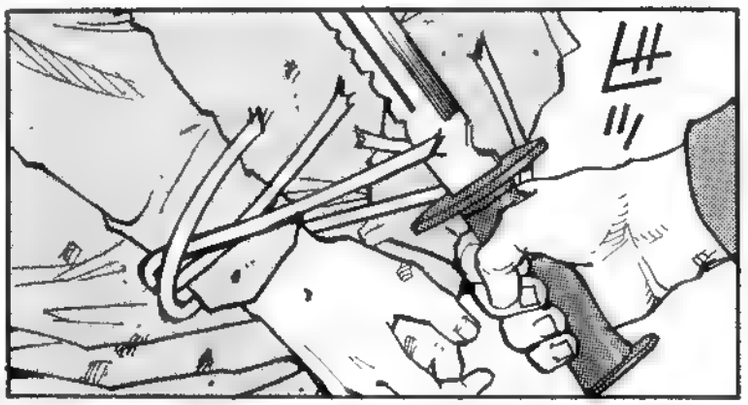


Chapter 24 | Line (Part 3)


UNNGH
...
pant
pant

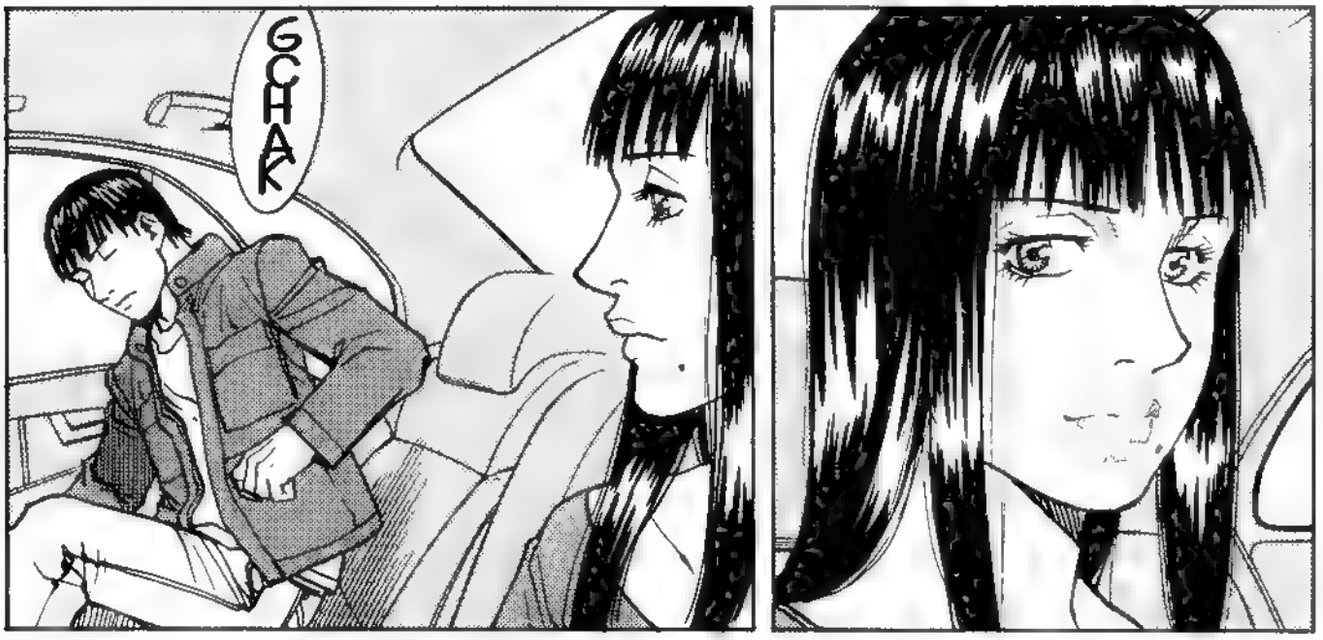


H-HEY, TAKASHI ...!
RATTLE



TAKASHI ...

YUJI...
YEAH ?
Y-YEAH ...
IS HE BREATHING?
ALL RIGHT ...
TIE HIM UP AND TAKE HIM TO MY UNCLE...
O-OK...
THEN CALL AN AMBU-LANCE...

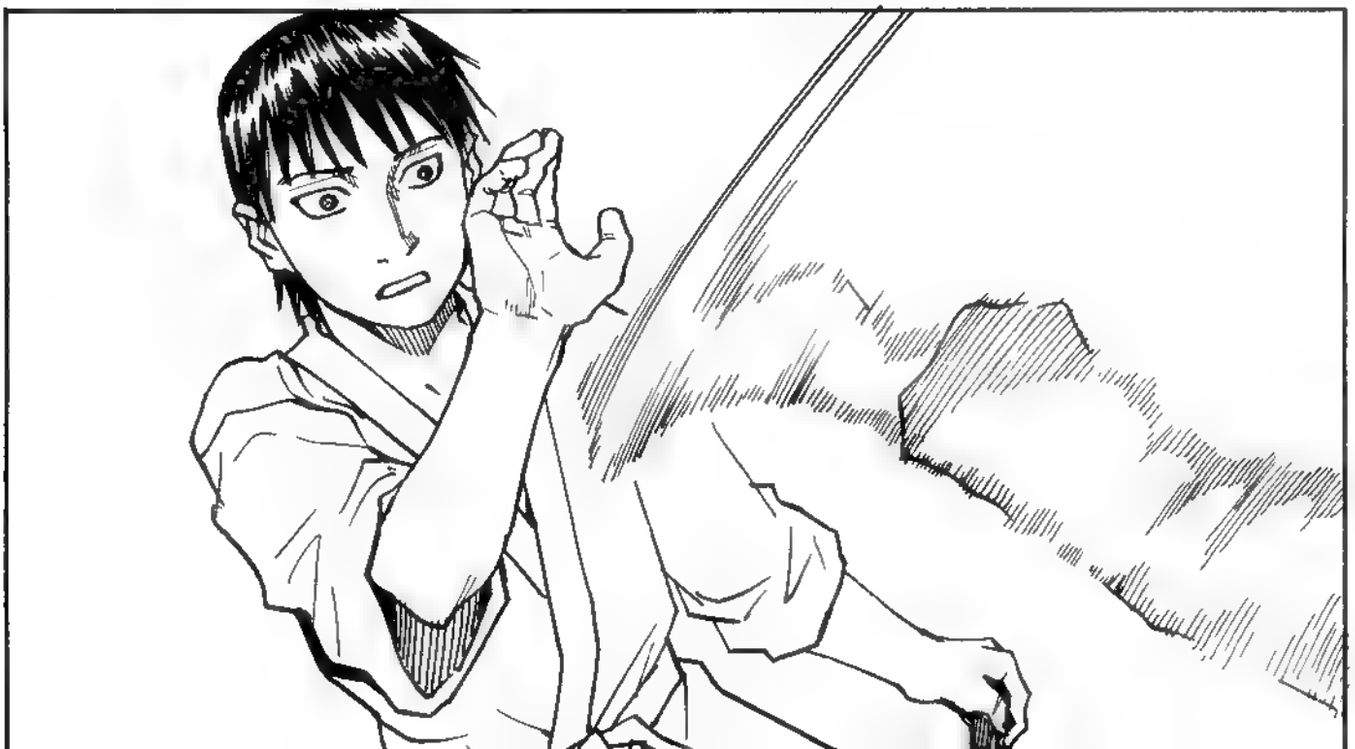

GCHAK

SO HOW'D IT GO?

...
OH MY...
THERE'S A HOLE IN IT.
!

TAKA-SHI.
I'M A BOXER...
...SO I ALWAYS THOUGHT BOXING WAS THE BEST.
BUT IT'S COM-PETITIVE ...
...SO AT SOME POINT YOU'VE GOT TO RETIRE.
BLACK
BUT WITH KARATE...
...
...AND OTHER MARTIAL ARTS LIKE THAT...
...IT'S GREAT THAT YOU CAN JUST...
...KEEP GETTING STRONGER UNTIL YOU DIE.

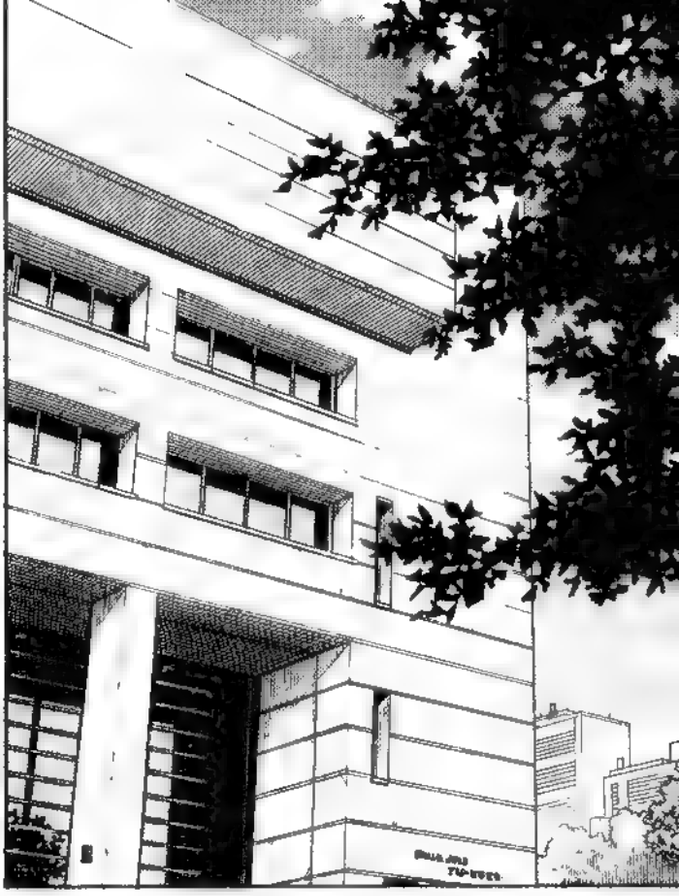
THAT WAS THE ONLY REASON...
I JUST WANTED TO BE STRONGER.
MY REASON FOR BECOMING A BOXER WAS PRETTY SIMPLE.
BLACK
...
THAT'S ALL...

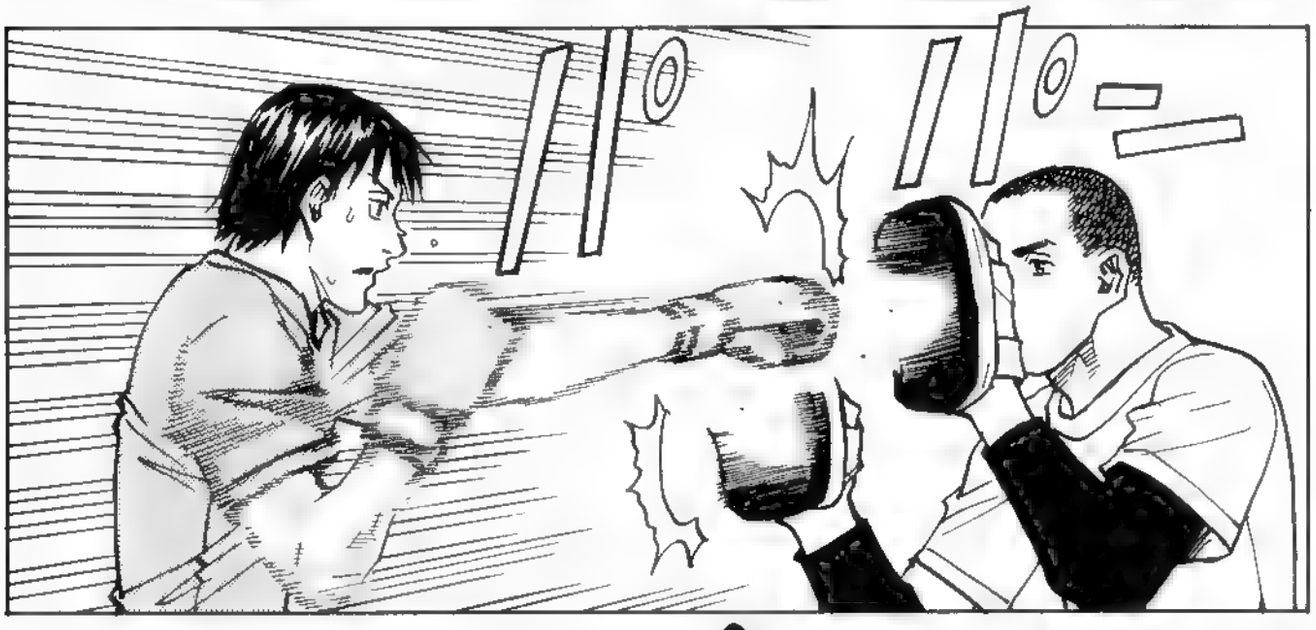


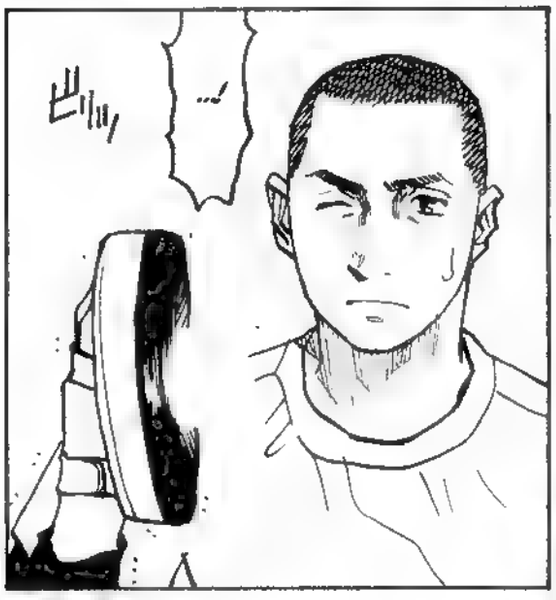
YEAH...
I DID IT?
WHAT?! FOR REAL?!
YOUR FOOT CAME DOWN FROM ABOVE...
MEGURU, WAS THAT...
HUH?
...A BRAZILIAN KICK?
TRY IT AGAIN.
SWEET! MAYBE I AM A GENIUS...
He he he...
HIYA!
RAISE YOUR KNEE LIKE A FRONT KICK...
HIYA!
ビュッ

MEGU-RU.
CAN I NOT DO IT WHEN I'M TRYING TO?!
WHAAAAT?!
REMEMBER THE BASICS!
YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF THAT WAY.
YOU CAN'T JUST SHAKE YOUR LEG AROUND.
YES, MASTER...

GIVE ME A ONE-TWO HOOK!






삐!!!!
...!

...
YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE UP BOXING INSTEAD?
TAKA-SHI.
...SORRY.
FORGET I SAID THAT.
I HEARD HE GOT SHOT AND DIED.
OH HEY, REMEMBER THAT GUY RYO KOJIMA?

...WHAT?
APPARENTLY SOME PUNK NAMED OKI PULLED THE TRIGGER.
GUESS HE GOT WHAT WAS COMING TO HIM...
I'M SORRY...
APPARENTLY THAT WAS THE PLAN ALL ALONG.
...YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
I HAD NO IDEA MYSELF.

IF I'D KNOWN THEY WANTED HIM DEAD, I WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED YOU.
BUT BELIEVE ME.
...
YOU DIDN'T REALLY KILL HIM, DID YOU?

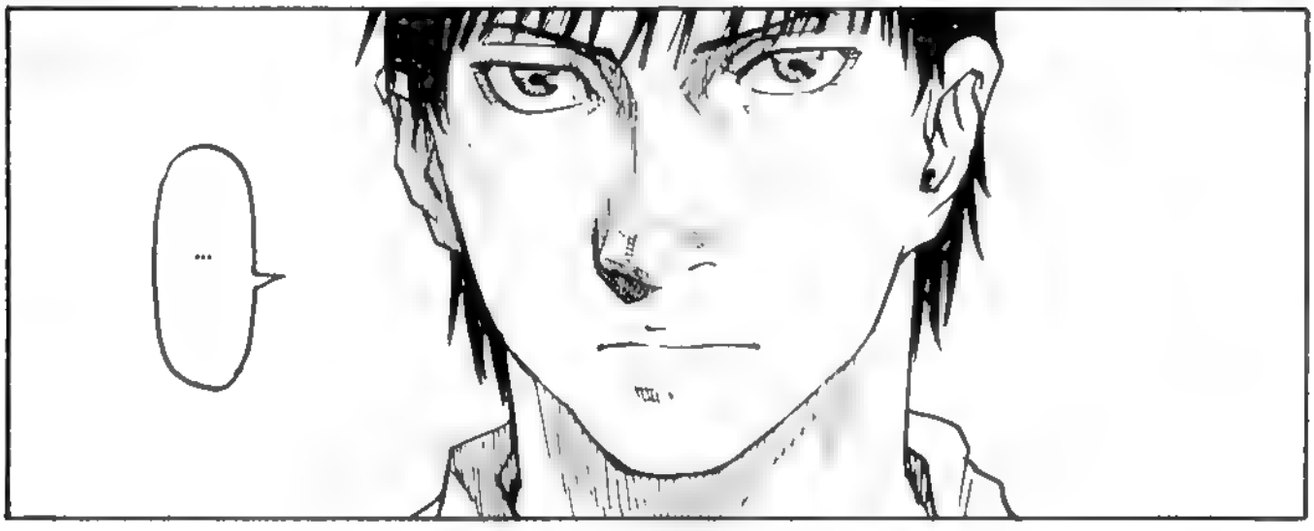
...
YOU'RE TAKING THE FALL FOR SOMEONE, AREN'T YOU?
WHY DON'T YOU TELL THE TRUTH?
ARE YOU READY FOR THAT?
WHO CARES ABOUT ME? THEY'RE GONNA GET YOU FOR MURDER.
...
IF I DID, THEY'D GET *YOU*, TOO...
I HEARD YOU WANT TO DO MARTIAL ARTS PROFESSIONALLY.
TAKASHI.

IF YOU GET FAMOUS I CAN SAY I KNEW YOU WHEN.
YOU WERE PRETTY DAMN STRONG...
... YEAH.
...
...BUT DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN SOME-THING STUPID.
TAKA-SHI,
I KNOW I'M NOT ONE TO TALK...
IF YOU'VE GOT DREAMS,
THEN GO FOR IT.

WINDY
WINDY
WINDY
THAT'S IT FOR ME TODAY.
SEE YA.
KOGURE GYM

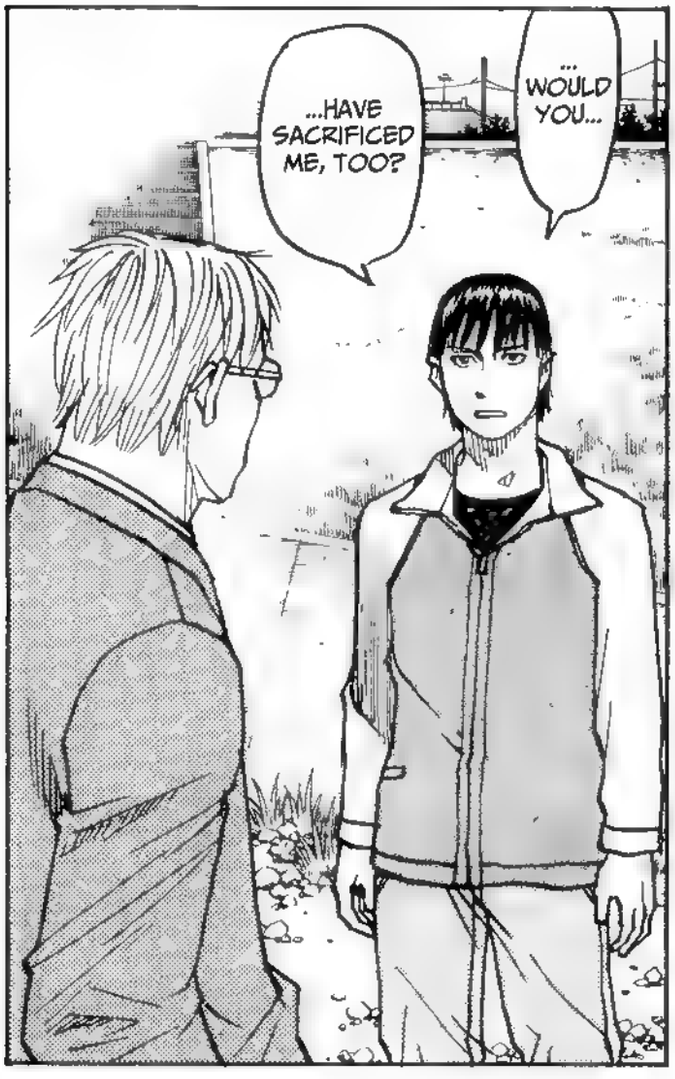
!

STILL HAVING FUN PLAYING AT MARTIAL ARTS...?
HEY.


...

HMM?
I DIDN'T SAY THAT.
...YOU KILLED HIM AND HAD YUJI TAKE THE BLAME?
IS THAT WHY...

KOJIMA WAS A FOOL WHO DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HONOR.
GOOD THING I CUT HIM OFF WHEN I DID...

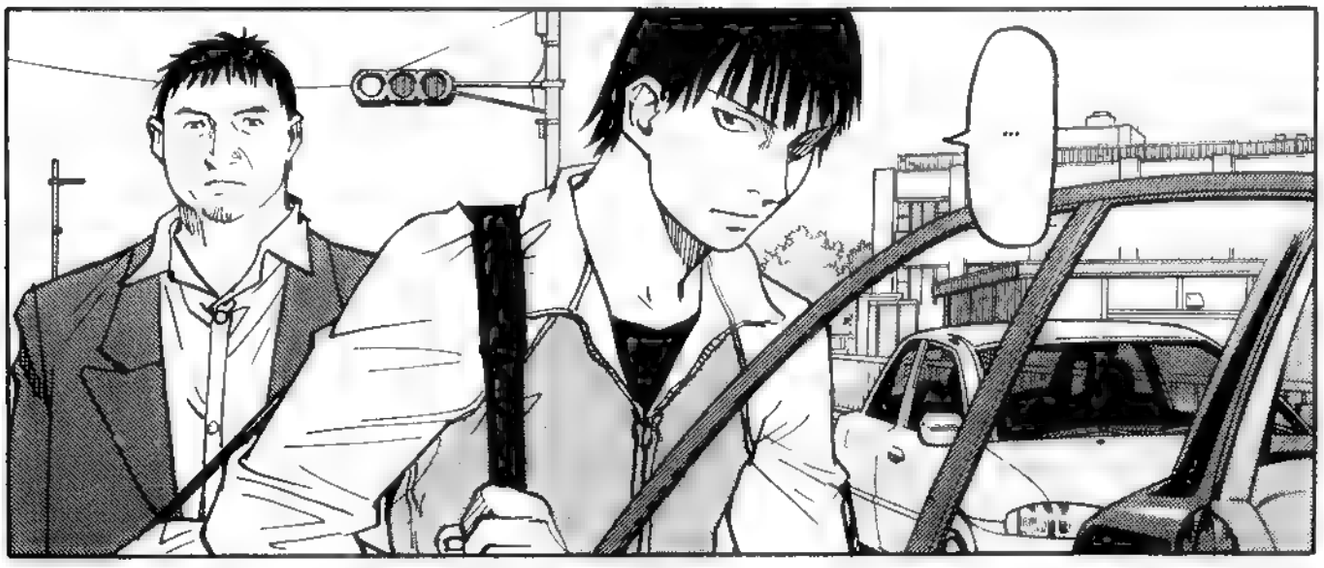

...HAVE SACRIFICED ME, TOO?
...WOULD YOU...

...

...TAKEN MIYUKI UP ON HER OFFER...
IF I HAD...

YOU'RE MY NEPHEW...
OF COURSE NOT.
YEAH.
WELL, I AM YAKUZA, AFTER ALL.
...
YOU'RE A SCUMBAG.
IF YOU WANT TO WASH YOUR HANDS OF SCUM LIKE US...
...YOU'D BETTER HURRY UP AND MAKE SOME-THING OF YOURSELF AS A FIGHTER.

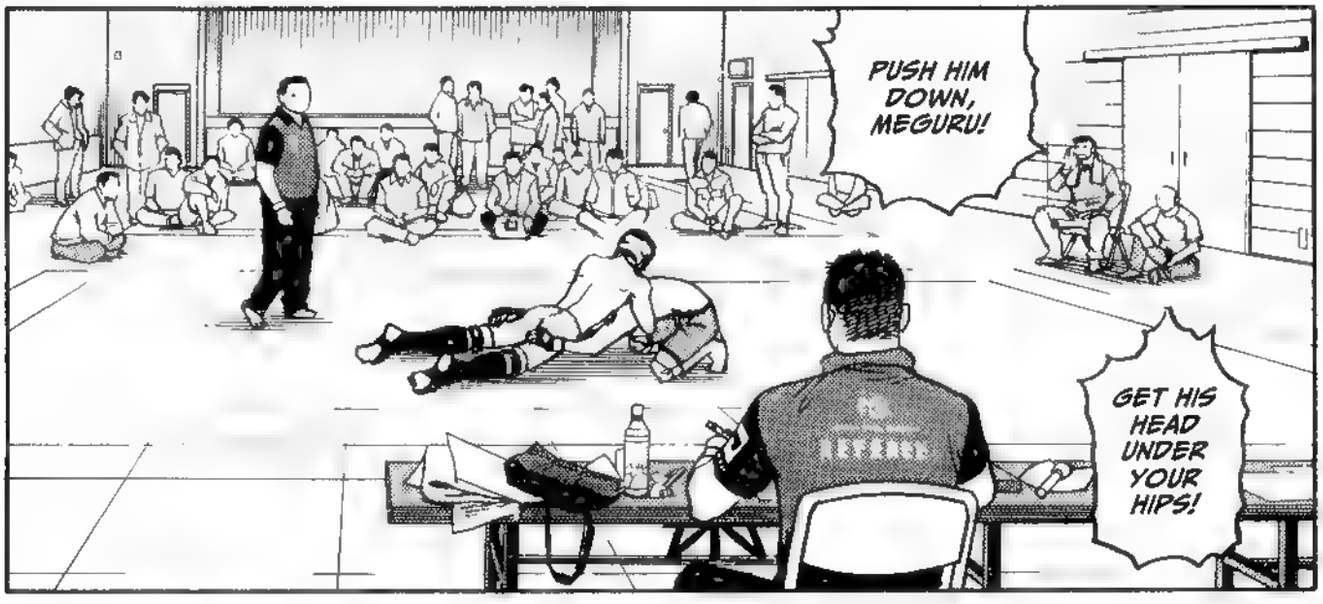
...YOU'LL JUST END UP FALLING IN WITH AN EVEN WORSE LOT...
HEHE!
THOUGH IF THAT HAPPENS...


...

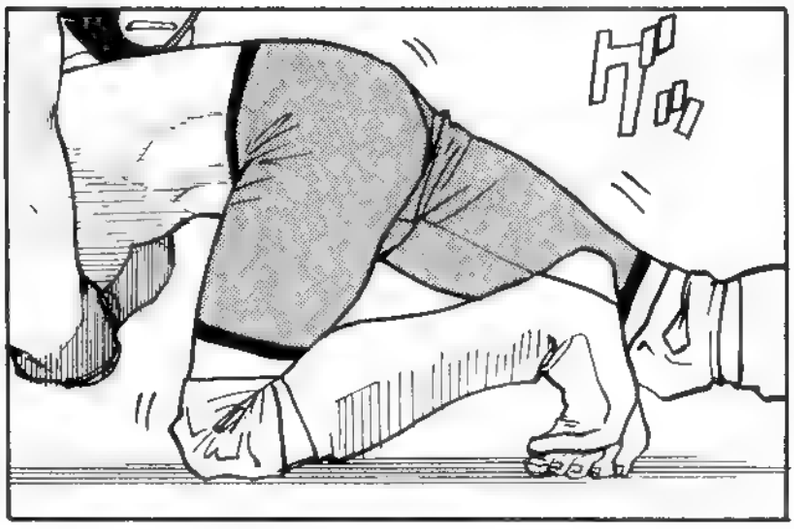
Chapter 25 | Gi* Training

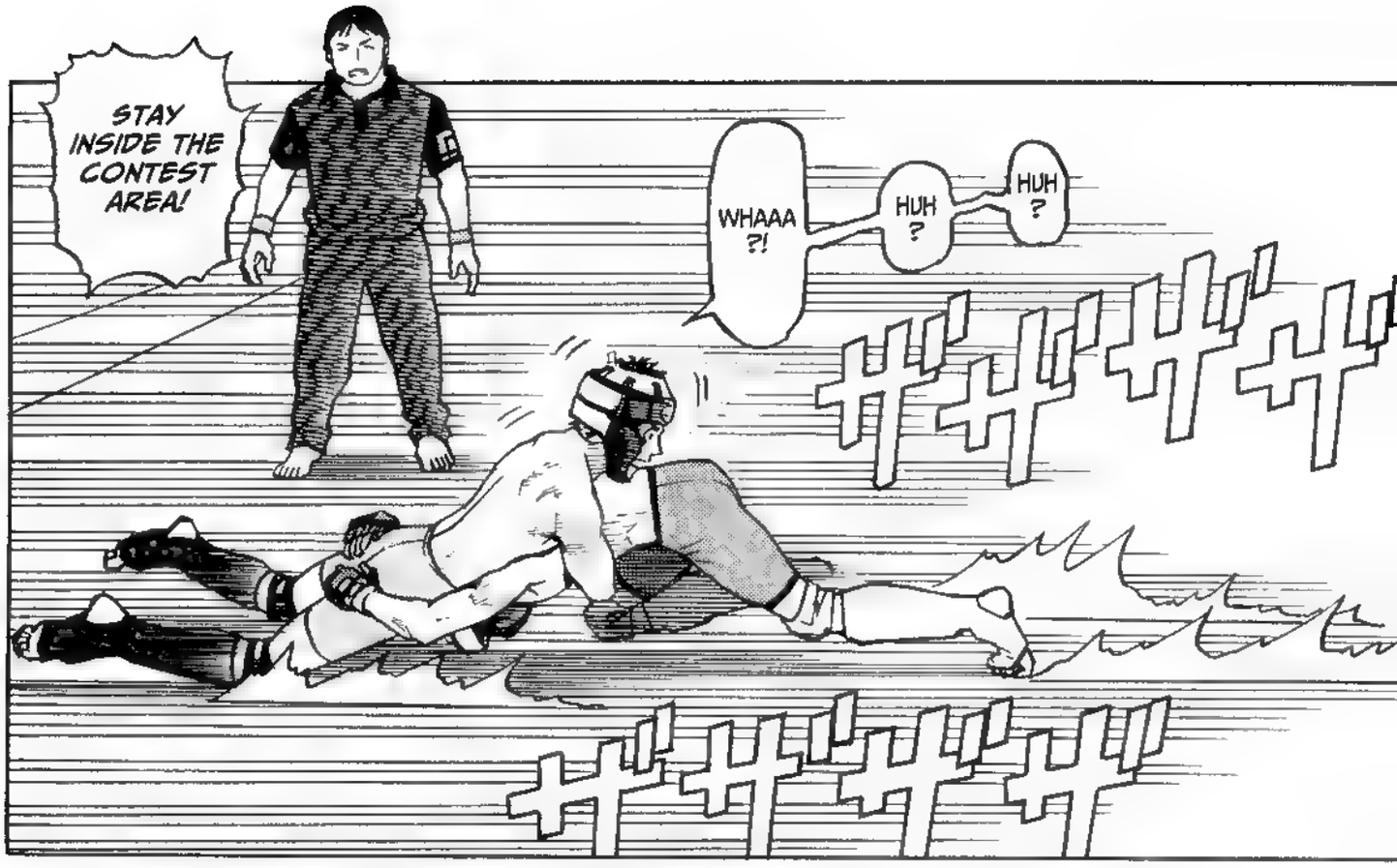
*FROM KEIKOGI (TRAINING UNIFORM).

MEGURU, THE DISTANCE! MIND THE DISTANCE!
HE'S GONNA SHOOT FOR A DOUBLE LEG!
U of S
CALIFORNIA
!
SHOOTO since 1985
ヒ!
KOOM
ユ!!


PUSH HIM DOWN, MEGURU!
GET HIS HEAD UNDER YOUR HIPS!

HUH?




STAY INSIDE THE CONTEST AREA!
WHAAA ?!
HUH ?
HUH ?

WAH!

SHOOTO

NICE REVERSAL, TACHI-BANA!
WHOAA!

Today is the Kanto Amateur Freshman Tourna-ment...
...which is held every May.
It's been about a year since I started doing *shooto*.
TOP.
STAND UP, MEGURU!

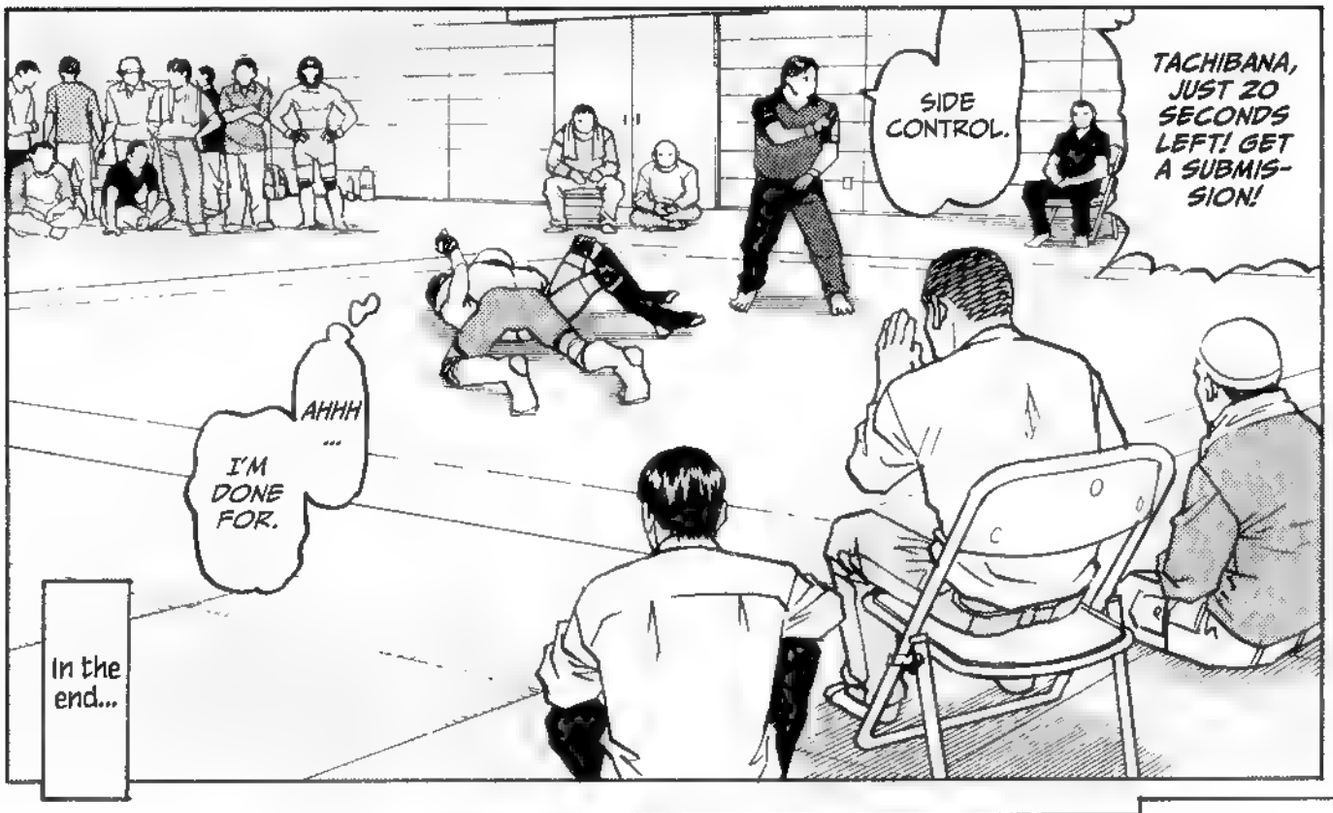
You can only participate in the tour-nament...
OH!
IS THAT MEGURU TAKA-YANAGI?
...if you have under two victories...

So since Yudai and Takashi have won three times, they couldn't enter.
TAKA-YANAGI THE LIGHT-WEIGHT?
THE ONE WHO SUBMITTED OGASA-WARA?
?
OGASA-WARA'S GOT A BROWN BELT IN JIU-JITSU, DOESN'T HE?
DOES IT SEEM LIKE THEY'RE ALL LOOKING AT ME TO YOU?
MEGURU'S STOCK
SOAR
YEAH, WELL.
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT YOUR VICTORY OVER OGASAWARA.
WAH...
...IF IT WAS JUST A FLUKE.
THEY ALL WANT TO SEE...
PRESSURE
It's a tourna-ment, so each match is only one 4-minute round...
There's always some pretty stiff competition for the lightweight division, and this year there are over 20 entrants.
...but if you want to win, you have to do five matches in one day.

I took the initiative with a jab and a leg kick...
...in my first match.
I warded off his takedown attempt and managed to capture his back.
In the end, I won 24-18!
And then in my second match...
MEGURU, YOU'VE ONLY GOT 30 SECONDS LEFT!
MOVE! MOVE!
PUSH

pant
pant
THIS GUY'S POWER IS OVER-WHELMING!
SHOOTO
IS HE REALLY A LIGHT-WEIGHT?!
WAH!
OH!
THE SPIRAL GUARD ?!
ガッ
SHOOTO
グッ

PUSH
HE PASSED MY GUARD!
OH SHIT!


In the end...
AHHH...
I'M DONE FOR.
SIDE CONTROL.
TACHIBANA, JUST 20 SECONDS LEFT! GET A SUBMISSION!

AND THE WINNER IS TACHIBANA, 26 TO 20!
I lost my second match due to the opponent's crushing power and grappling prowess.

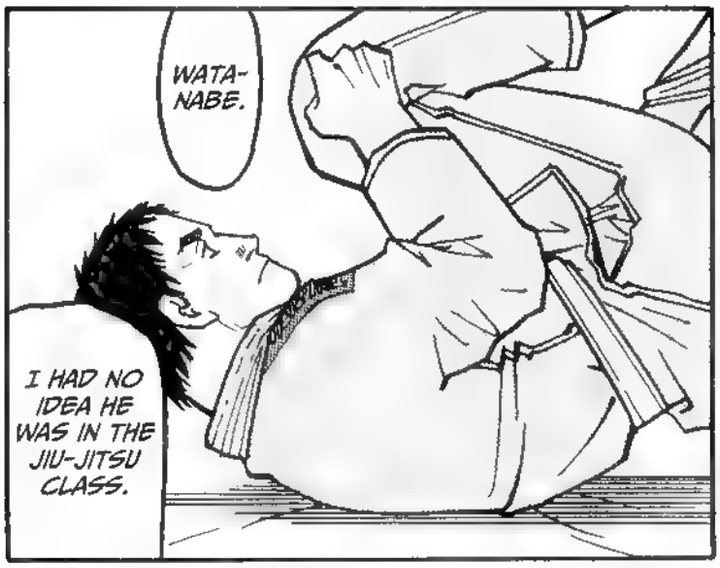
...just as he was about to execute a kimura from side control...
MATCH OVER!
... time was up.

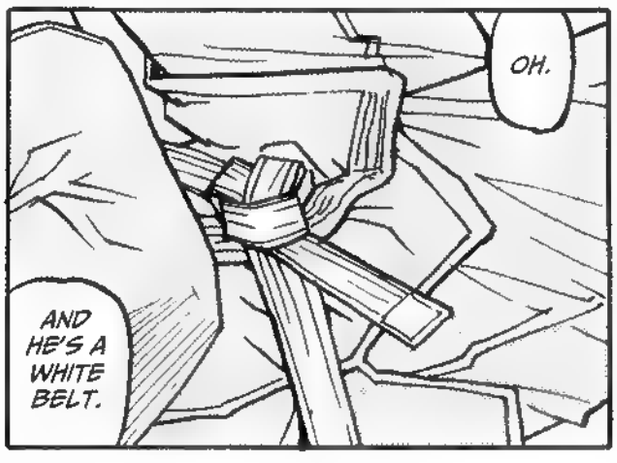
plummet
MEGURU'S STOCK
OW, OW...
HE'S NOTHING SPECIAL.
whis-per
whis-per
DID HE REALLY SUBMIT OGASA-WARA?
GUESS IT WAS JUST A FLUKE.

BUT EVEN IF YOU CAN COPY MOVES...
...YOU CAN'T COPY POWER AND PHYSIQUE.
WELL, YOU MAY STAND A CHANCE...
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...
...AGAINST A TECHNICAL TYPE LIKE OGASA-WARA...
UH...
YOU JUST GAVE UP AFTER HE GOT SIDE CONTROL, THOUGH, DIDN'T YOU, MEGURU?
THAT'S THE CARDINAL SIN!
I KNOW ...
YOU'VE GOTTA WATCH YOUR SIDES OR IT WON'T WORK.
AND YOUR GROUND GAME'S GOTTEN SLOPPY LATELY.
WITH 30 SECONDS LEFT, YOU COULD'VE REVERSED HIS MOUNT AND WON THE FIGHT.
YOU HAVE TO GO OUT FIGHTING!

WEAR A GI NEXT TIME YOU'RE AT THE GYM.
ANYWAY, YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOUR GRAPPLING TECHNIQUES.
TIE
FURUYA SAID I SHOULD.
UH, YEAH.
HEY! IS THIS YOUR JIU-JITSU DEBUT, MEGURU?

NOW...
...LET'S BEGIN OUR BASIC JIU-JITSU CLASS.
BOW!


WATA-NABE.
I HAD NO IDEA HE WAS IN THE JIU-JITSU CLASS.

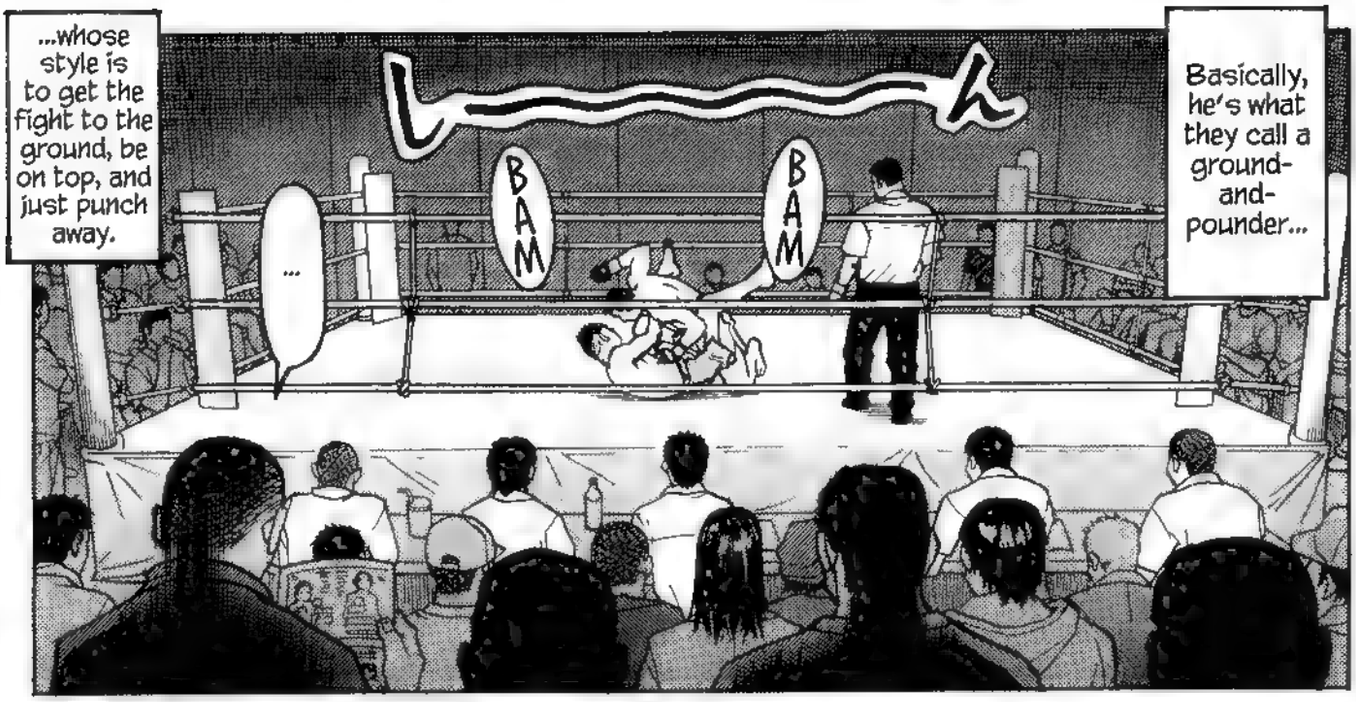

OH.
AND HE'S A WHITE BELT.

わしゃ
わしゃ
HUH?

The Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu ranking system...
...goes white, blue, purple, brown, then black belt.
...but it originally came from Japan.
It's called Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu ...
...STILL HAS TO START WITH A WHITE BELT...
EVEN A PRO SHOOTO FIGHTER WITH WRESTLING EXPERI-ENCE...
In the '90s, it got really popular and apparently everyone said Gracie Jiu-Jitsu was the strongest (I wasn't into it at the time).
The reason BJJ has become so popular after it returned to Japan...

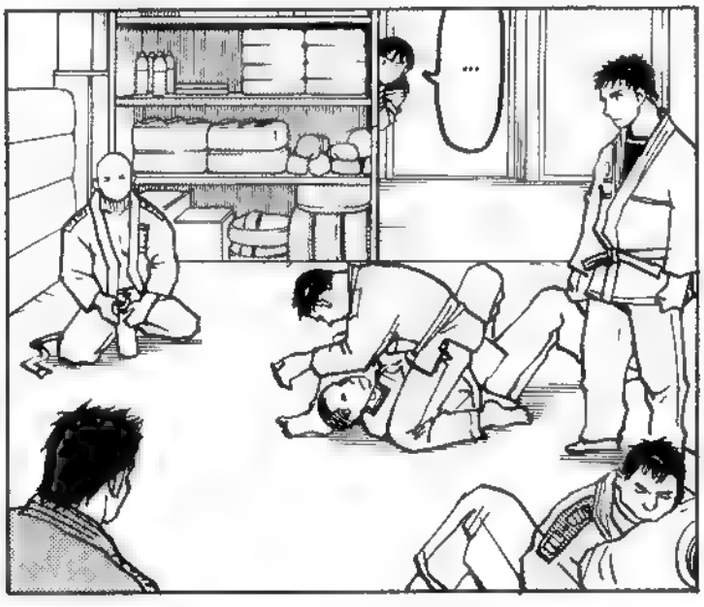
ぐるん
...and most importantly because it contains elements...
ギュッ
...is because of the efforts of early *shooto* fighters and leaders...
TAMIYA'S AMAZING.
TAP TAP
...that are essential to modern mixed martial arts.
WATANABE MUST WEIGH LIKE 10 KG MORE THAN HIM, AND YET...
I CAN'T GET MY LEG OUT...
UH-OH...
And the reason Furuya told me to wear a gi...
...is because unlike bare skin, there's a lot of friction...

If you don't follow all the steps exactly, you won't be able to pull off the moves.
pant
pant
OK, NOW KEEP YOUR HIPS IN POSITION.
...so you can't just force your way through.
Watanabe's a middleweight fighter whose pro record is five wins and two losses...
KORAL
KORAL
...but all his wins have been KO's. He has yet to manage a submission.
WELL ...
WHY ARE YOU DOING JIU-JITSU, WATA-NABE?
I REALLY WANT TO GET A SUB.
I'M ALL POWER AND NO STAMINA.


...whose style is to get the fight to the ground, be on top, and just punch away.
...
BAM
BAM
Basically, he's what they call a ground-and-pounder...

...

BUT I GUESS HE DOESN'T LIKE TO BE PIGEON-HOLED...
IT'S PRETTY AMAZING THAT HE CAN JUST HOLD SOMEONE DOWN LIKE THAT...
COMPETITOR


...

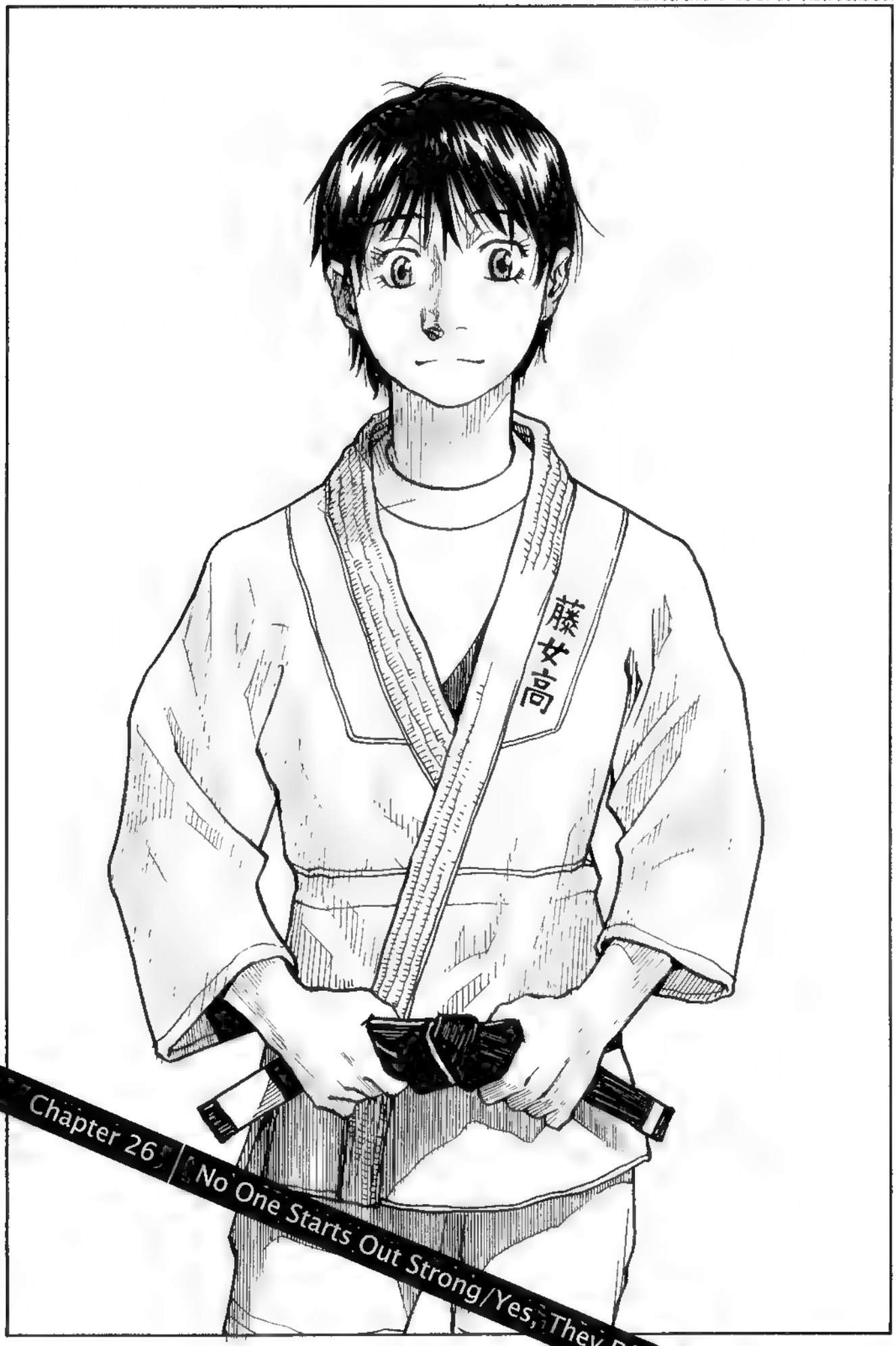
pissed off
sneak
UH?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAND THERE?
DON'T "UH?" ME.
WH-WHOA?!
GET IN THERE.
ROLL
BAM

WHERE DO I EVEN START...?
UM...
...
DID YOU HEAR THAT...?
CAN'T SEE HER UNDIES.
THAT'S A DE-MERIT.
Who wears drawers? Jeez!
SERI-OUSLY? THAT'S YOUR FIRST THOUGHT ?!
AND DON'T YOU NOD, TOO, URA!
Uh-huh
Uh-huh
KORAL
KIMONOS

EITHER WAY, IT'S NO GOOD IF YOU CAN'T SEE HER UNDIES!
THEY'RE GYM SHORTS.
THEY'RE NOT CALLED DRAWERS THESE DAYS ANYMORE.
Uh-huh
Uh-huh
TAMIYA, AS A TEACHER, I'M NOT SURE YOU SHOULD BE SAYING THAT.
HEY, KAMIYA.
WHAT ABOUT UNDIES?
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS DRAWERS GIRL?
NO WAYYYY
NOOOOO
WHAT'S WITH THEM?
THAT'S THE SOUND OF THEIR LECHEROUS DREAMS BEING SHATTERED...
AHHHH-HHHH!
YOU COULDN'T GO OUT IN A SKIRT LIKE THIS WITHOUT THEM.
EVERY-ONE DOES IT.
ぴ
NOOO-OOOO!
シュ

がばっ
OH, SHE GOT UP.
RARGH
NOOOO
I've got a sister.
And your dreams weren't shattered?
SHE'S MY CLASS-MATE.
MAKI...
SHE WANTS TO LEARN JIU-JITSU.
HUH?!
HUH?
WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
ARE YOU OK?
I HEARD YOU OFFER A FREE TRIAL.
YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR GYM?!
serious
WHAT?!
KORAL
ORAL

I'M MOMOKO AIKAWA!
NICE TO MEET YOU!
OUR SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE A JUDO TEAM ANYMORE,
SO SHE'S LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET SOME EXERCISE.
NOOO
SAY IT AIN'T SO!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU.
IT'S AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL.
HUH?
F GIRLS' H.GH SCHOOL
ISN'T THAT PLACE PRETTY RITZY ...?
NOT AS RITZY AS PEOPLE THINK.
YOU'VE MADE A GREAT CHOICE, MOMOKO.
serious
serious
OUR GYM HAS EXCELLENT SHOWERS AND CHANGING ROOMS, TOO.
WHAT'S UP WITH THE SUDDEN CHANGE?
THERE AREN'T MANY GIRLS WHO DO GRAP-PLING...
BUT WHAT SORT OF SCHOOL DROPS THEIR JUDO TEAM?

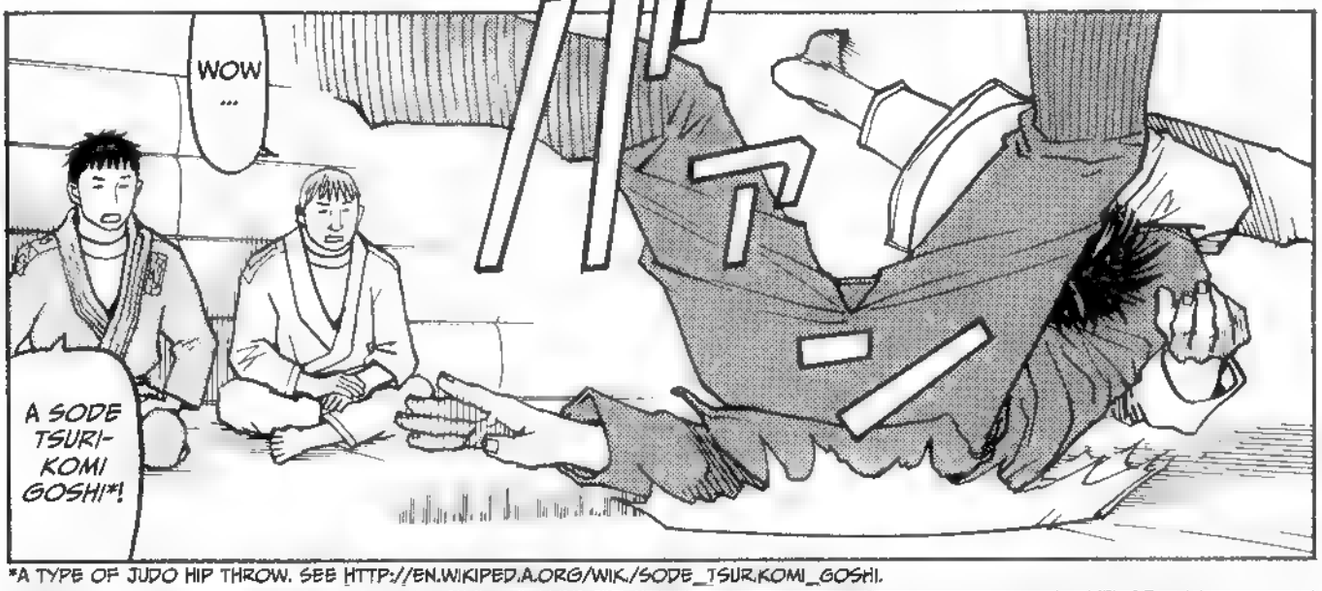


Chapter 26 | No One Starts Out Strong/Yes, They Do

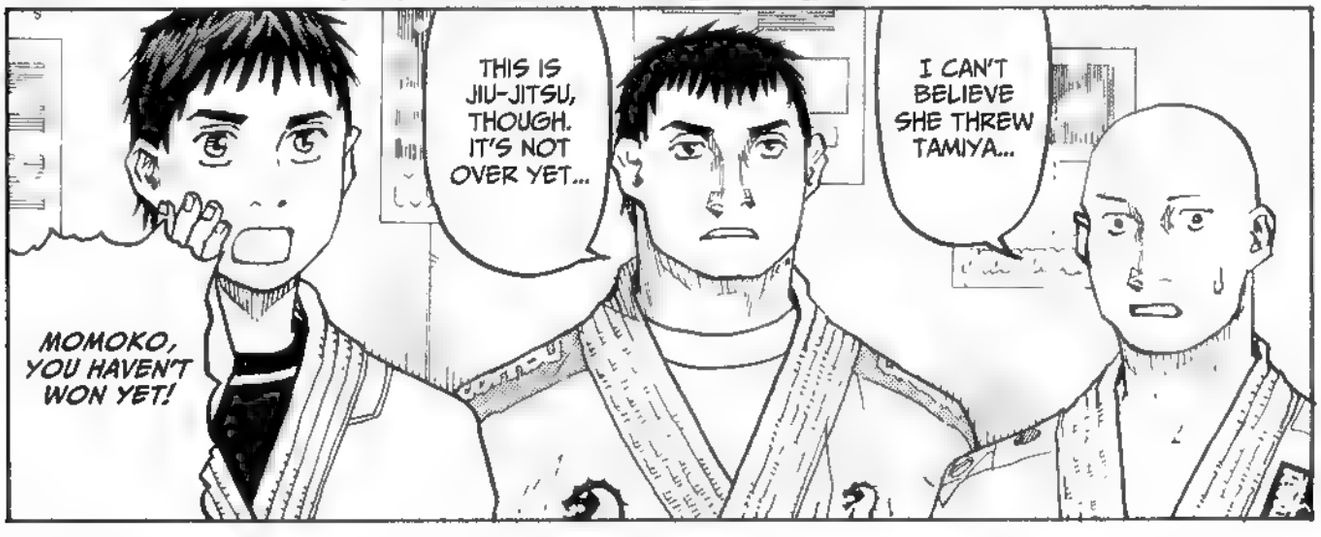
o Hip switch
ばっ
ばっ
o Shrimp
んばっ
んばっ
ずば
ん
MAN...
SHE LOOKS SO FRESH-FACED IN THAT WHITE JUDOGI...
o Forward Judo roll
WHAT THE HECK'S WITH THEM?
Doesn't think it's funny.
BET IT'S FULL OF YOUNG SEXY SCHOOL-GIRLS...
WISH I WENT TO AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL ...
SERI-OUSLY? DAAAMN.
APPARENTLY SHE GOES TO AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL.
WELL, IT'S JUST KIND OF NEW FOR THEM.

OK, LET'S GET STARTED!
BEEP
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BJJ AND JUDO...
...IS THAT YOU ONLY GET 2 POINTS FOR A THROW.
YOU CAN GET AN *IPPON* WITH A CHOKEHOLD OR A JOINT LOCK.
nod
nod
AND THERE'S NO "WAIT."
I THINK I'LL START WITH SOME GRAPPLING...
NOW... WHAT SHOULD I DO?

UWAH!
A SWEEP ?!
ばっ
ズザッ



*A TYPE OF JUDO HIP THROW. SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPED.A.ORG/WIK./SODE_TSUR.KOMI_GOSHI.



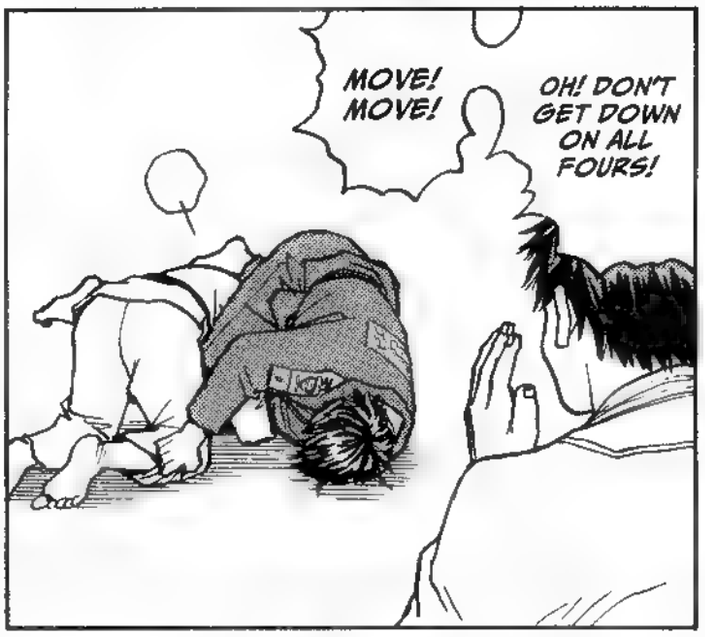
ガッ
?
PIN HIM DOWN!
KORAL
WHUH ?
ガッッ
KORAL
HUH?
ガッッ
Ooff
ヒ
ュッッ

WHAA-AAAA?
FLAP
FLAP
WHOA!
WHOA!
ひょ
いっ
ガッ
ISN'T THAT SEXUAL HARASS-MENT?
blushing
IT'S CALLED THE DE LA RIVA HOOK!
HUUUUH?!
ばふっ
WELL, HELLO!
?
?
BUT HER STAND-UP GRAPPLING IS AMAZING.
TAMIYA, YOU CAN'T JUST DO A DE LA RIVA OUT OF NOWHERE LIKE THAT.
きゅっ
TAP TAP

BUT...
THAT GIRL'S REALLY SOME-THING...
HARD TO BELIEVE TAMIYA'S GETTING ALL WORKED UP OVER HER STAND-UP GRAPPLING...
WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE SUCH TECH-NIQUE'D BE ILLEGAL IN JUDO.
SHE WALKED RIGHT INTO THAT ONE...
ばっ

ゴーロ
KORAL
KORAL

ばっ
KORAL
WHAAA?!


MOVE! MOVE!
OH! DON'T GET DOWN ON ALL FOURS!

TAP TAP

ぱっ
KORAL
KORAL

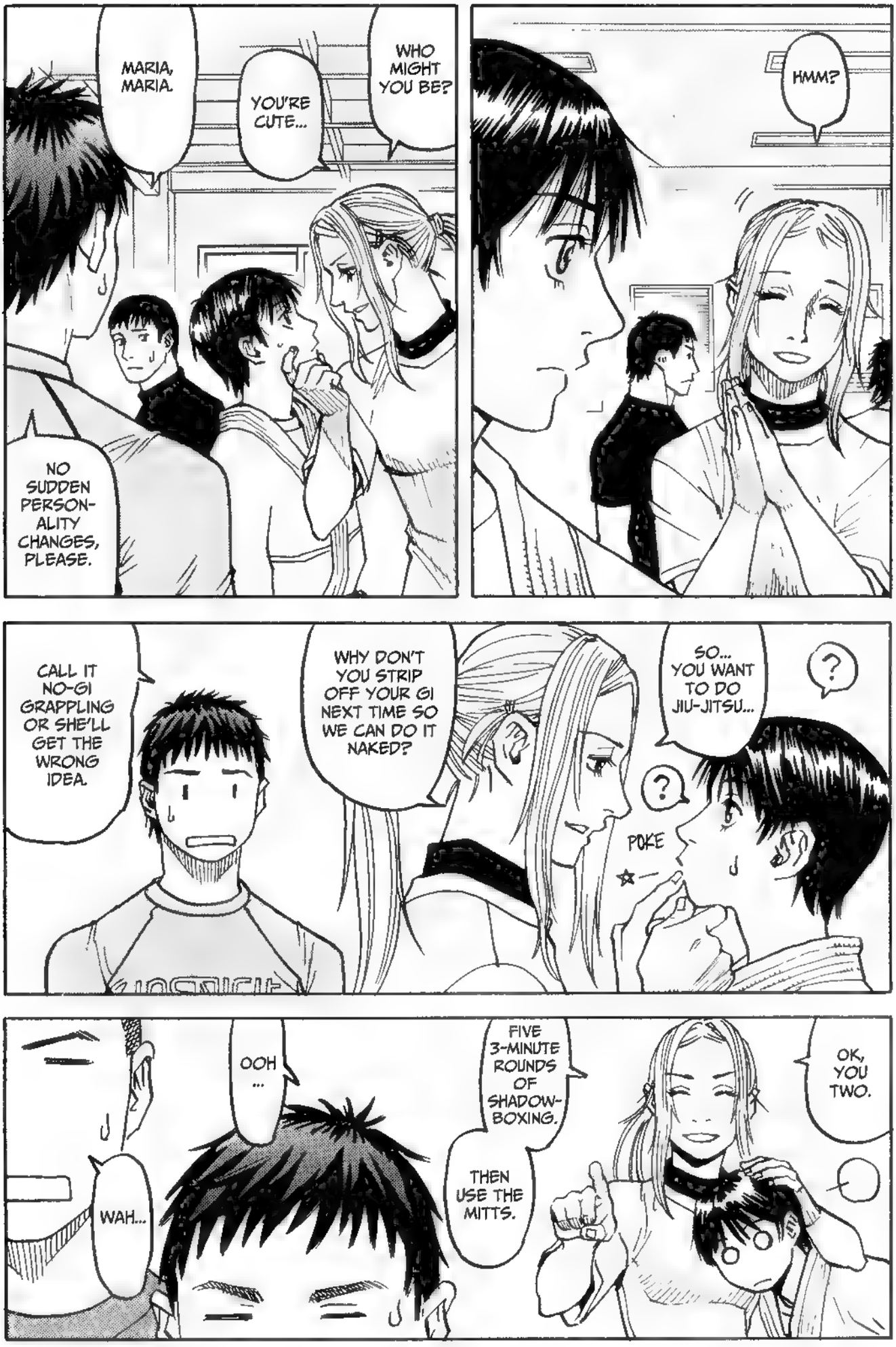
ぽか〜〜ん
I GUESS THOSE WHO DO JUDO REALLY ARE DIFFERENT.
MAN, YOUR STAND-UP GRAPPLING IS AWE-SOME.
KORAL
KIMONOS
HOW DID YOU DO THAT?
WOW, YOU'RE AMAZING!
WOOSH
WOOSH
YOU HAVE TO TEACH ME!
WOW.
...
HE LOOKS SO SELF-SATISFIED...
Really not amused
I ENVY HIM...
I'M SO GLAD YOU'VE TAKEN A LIKING TO JIU-JITSU...
WELL ...

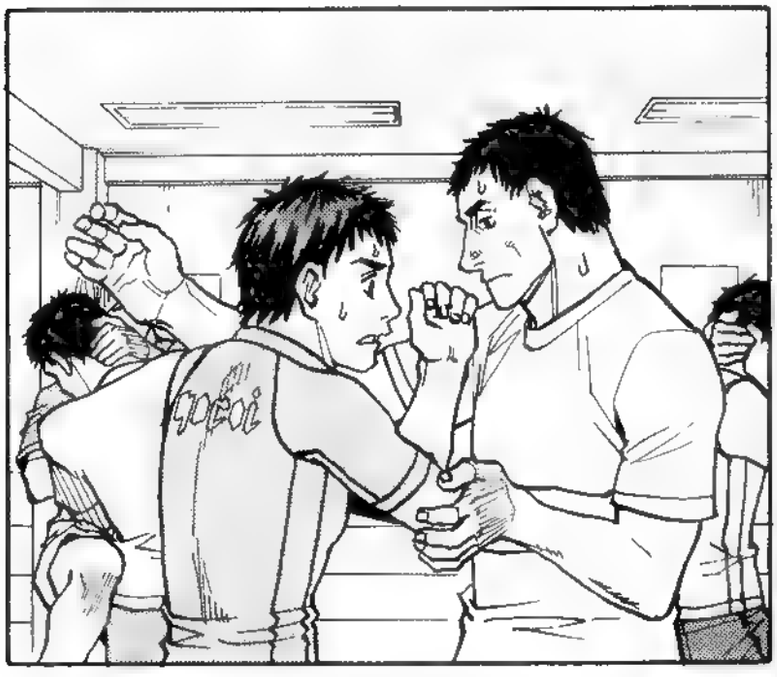
WATA-NABE'S AT IT AGAIN.
A drill to see how long it takes to escape side control
ばた
...
りた
TIME FOR DRILLS.
MEGU-RU.
MOMOKO, IF YOU DON'T MIND, HOW ABOUT--
HOWDY.
HEY, YUDAI.
I HAVE NO DESIRE TO GRAPPLE.
KAMIYA, AREN'T YOU GONNA WEAR A GI?
KITA-MURA!
!

...WE WERE ON THE SAME JUDO TEAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
WHAT, YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?
WOW!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AIKAWA ?!
GAH!
THAT'S MY LINE!
CAN WE HAVE A MINUTE?
ガッ
HUH?
YUDAI.
LET'S DO IT! LET'S DO IT TO-GETHER! ♡
UH...
HOLD ♡
ARE YOU DOING JIU-JITSU NOW AS WELL?
I DON'T HAVE A GI...
NO THANKS !

...IS THE WAY SHE SAID YOUR NAME.
THE PROBLEM...
AND THAT HEART YOU COULD HEAR WHEN SHE SAID "LET'S DO IT."
UH, WE WERE ON THE SAME--
WHAT'S YOUR RELA-TIONSHIP WITH HER?
?
UM...
IS THERE A PROB-LEM WITH KITAMURA ...?
DOJO ROMANCE IS PRO-HIBITED HERE!
THAT'S CALLED A "LOVE FLAG," YOU KNOW!
THAT'S THE FIRST I'VE HEARD ABOUT IT...
UH...

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YOU WERE SO GUNG-HO ABOUT IT.
DID YOU QUIT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL JUDO TEAM?
YOU TURNED DOWN A REALLY COMPETITIVE SCHOOL AND NOW YOU'RE DOING JIU-JITSU?
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT?!
I HOPE YOU'LL BE HAPPY!
YOU WIN.
Heh!
KURAL
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET THE HYBRID CLASS STARTED.
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
...
HMPH!
DID YOU GUYS NOT GET ALONG?


MARIA, MARIA.
YOU'RE CUTE...
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
NO SUDDEN PERSON-ALITY CHANGES, PLEASE.
HMM?
CALL IT NO-GI GRAPPLING OR SHE'LL GET THE WRONG IDEA.
WHY DON'T YOU STRIP OFF YOUR GI NEXT TIME SO WE CAN DO IT NAKED?
SO... YOU WANT TO DO JIU-JITSU...
?
?
POKE
OOH ...
WAH...
THEN USE THE MITTS.
FIVE 3-MINUTE ROUNDS OF SHADOW-BOXING.
OK, YOU TWO.



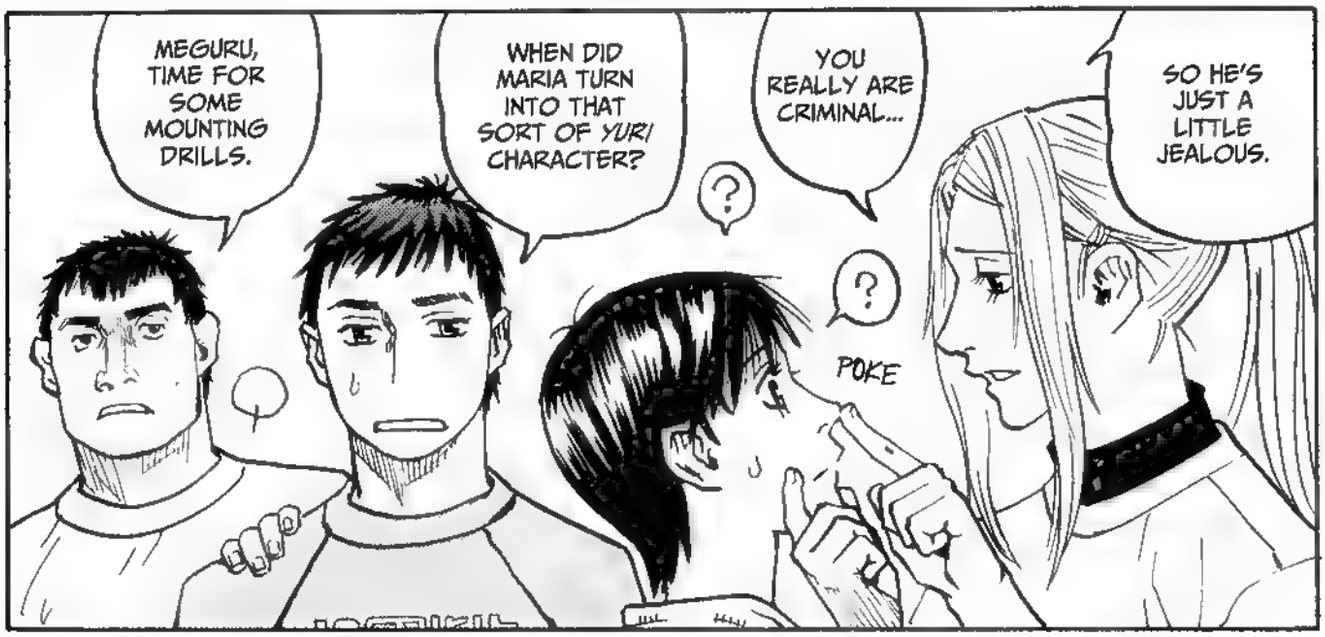
TRY NOT TO GET HURT!
OK, NEXT UP, FIVE 3-MINUTE ROUNDS OF CLINCHES!

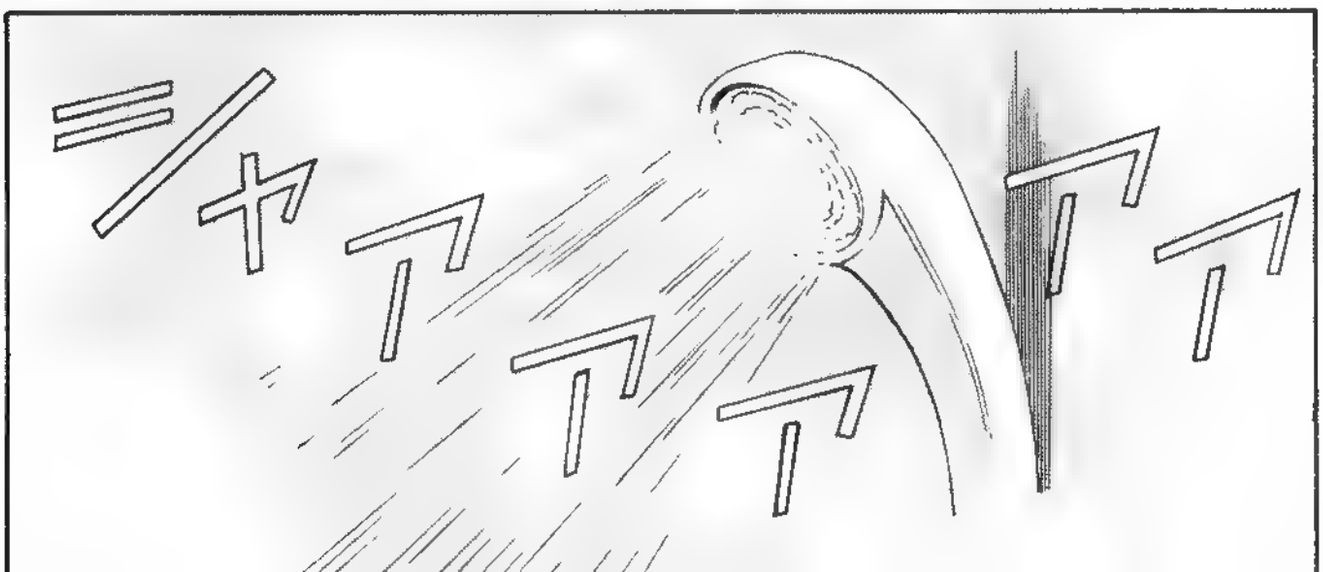
OW!

Didn't mean anything by it.
DID SHE DO IT ON PURPOSE ...?
A SLIP? THERE ARE NO ELBOWS IN WOMEN'S KICKBOXING, THOUGH...
IT WAS A SLIP.
OH, MY BAD.
HEY, NO ELBOWS!
WAH!

WOW, SHE'S BEEN DOING GROUND GRAPPLING WITH TAMIYA ALL THIS TIME.
HMPH.
HOW LONG IS SHE GONNA STICK WITH IT?
YOU CAN'T DO A SWEEPING HIP THROW IN A CLINCH!
Bah!
THIS IS MMA. I CAN DO ANYTHING IN A CLINCH.
GEE, MOMO-KO!
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON ?!
THAT WAS AMAZING, KITA-MURA.
I WON'T FOR-GET THIS!
CLAP
CLAP
...AND NEVER GETS BEYOND THE TOP FOUR.
EVEN IN TOURNA-MENTS, SHE QUICKLY LOSES INTEREST ...
BUT SHE NEVER LASTS LONG.
SHE'S SKILLFUL AND A QUICK LEARNER.
SHE GETS TIRED OF THINGS... ...QUICK-LY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?

HE'S A REAL GO-GETTER.
OF COURSE HE'S A QUICK LEARNER, TOO.
BUT HE'S TOO TOUGH ON HIMSELF.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
HMPH.
YOU'RE SKILLFUL.
I...
...HATE HER TYPE.


MEGURU, TIME FOR SOME MOUNTING DRILLS.
WHEN DID MARIA TURN INTO THAT SORT OF YURI CHARACTER?
?
YOU REALLY ARE CRIMINAL...
?
POKE
SO HE'S JUST A LITTLE JEALOUS.



ガッ
DID YOU QUIT JUDO?
...TCH!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
AHHHH!
LET GO OF ME!
HEY, STOP IT, KITA-MURA!

SIGN: MEN'S CHANGING ROOM

OH WELL...
WHAT-EVER.
WAS THIS WHAT THE GIRLS' CHANGING ROOM LOOKED LIKE?
HUH?
o Full mount
SHE'S A LITTLE WEAK...
...
HER STAND-UP GRAPPLING IS FAULT-LESS.
SHE REALLY SURPRISED ME.
HOW'D THAT AIKAWA GIRL DO?
SHE'S GOT WHAT IT TAKES.
o North-south position
ANYWAY, IF SHE JOINS...
...
...BUT SOME MORE WEIGHT TRAINING SHOULD DO THE TRICK.
...HER GROUND WORK'LL IMPROVE QUICKLY, TOO.

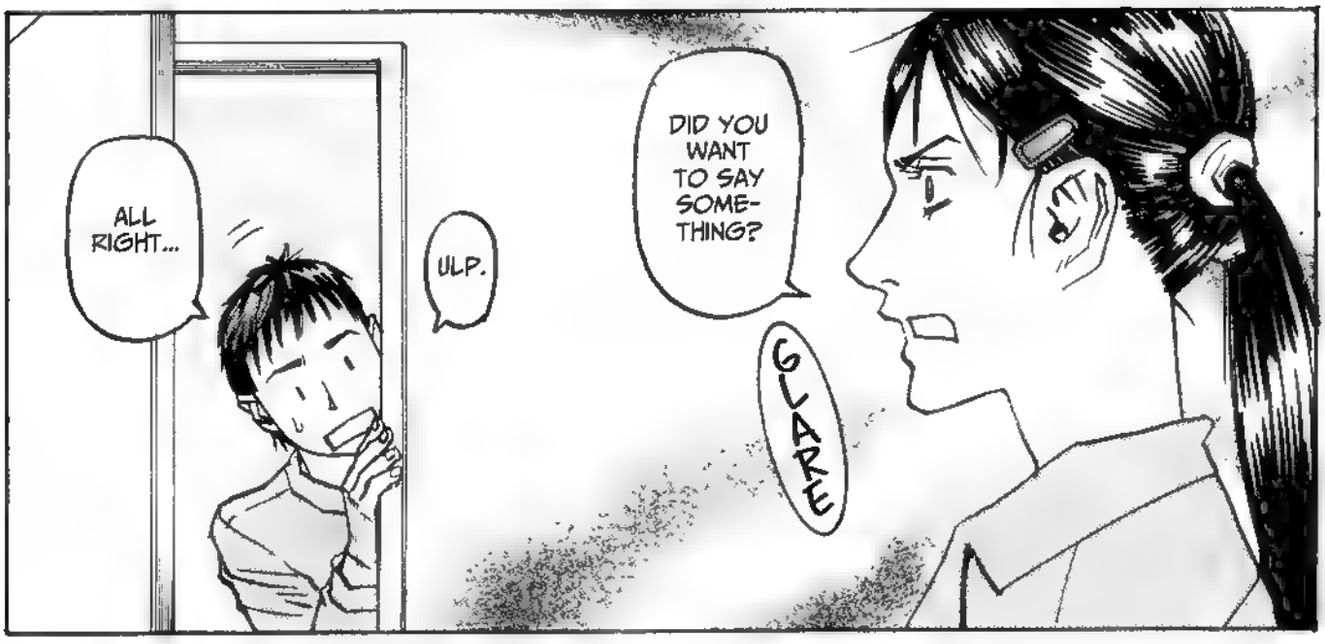
ニヤ
THIS JUST ISN'T MY DAY.
SHIT...
OH, I LEFT MY TOWEL IN MY LOCKER.

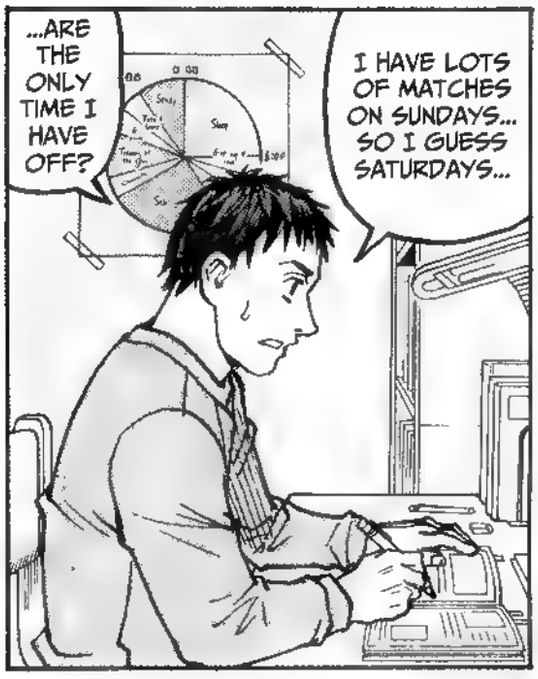
...
WHUH?
ピ
ULP...
キリ
I CAN SEE YOUR PENIS...
AH.
WHAT?
COME ON, IT'S FUN. ♡
...GOING TO BREAK THIS CHAIN?
HOW ARE YOU...
IT HAD TO HAPPEN...
IS IT FUN BETRAYING YOUR FRIEND?
AHHHHHHHHHHH!
...
WAHHH

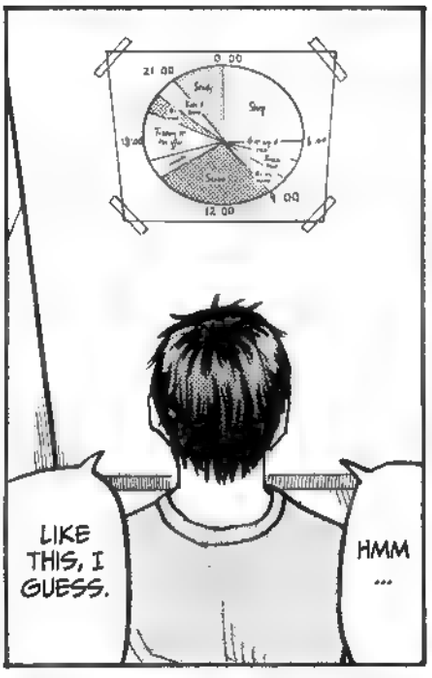
Chapter 27 | There Are a Lot of Things to Do in Life

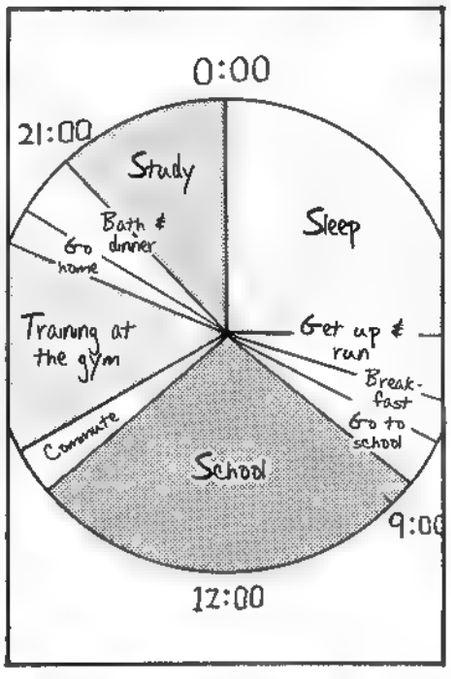
SO... YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE...
THEN WHAT'S THIS AMATEUR SHOOTO KANTO CHAMPIONSHIP?
IT'S AT THE END OF JUNE.
IF I DON'T WIN, I CAN'T ENTER THE ALL-JAPAN TOURNAMENT IN SEPTEMBER...
HMM...
AND WHAT ABOUT THESE AWFUL MIDTERM GRADES?

WELL, UH...
WELL WHAT?
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU SPEND EVERY DAY...
...ROLLING AROUND AT THAT GYM!
IF YOUR GRADES ARE THIS BAD AT THE END OF THE TERM...
...I'M GONNA HAVE TO ASK YOU TO *QUIT* THE GYM.
WHAAAAT?!


ALL RIGHT...
ULP.
DID YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING?
SLARU


...ARE THE ONLY TIME I HAVE OFF?
I HAVE LOTS OF MATCHES ON SUNDAYS... SO I GUESS SATURDAYS...

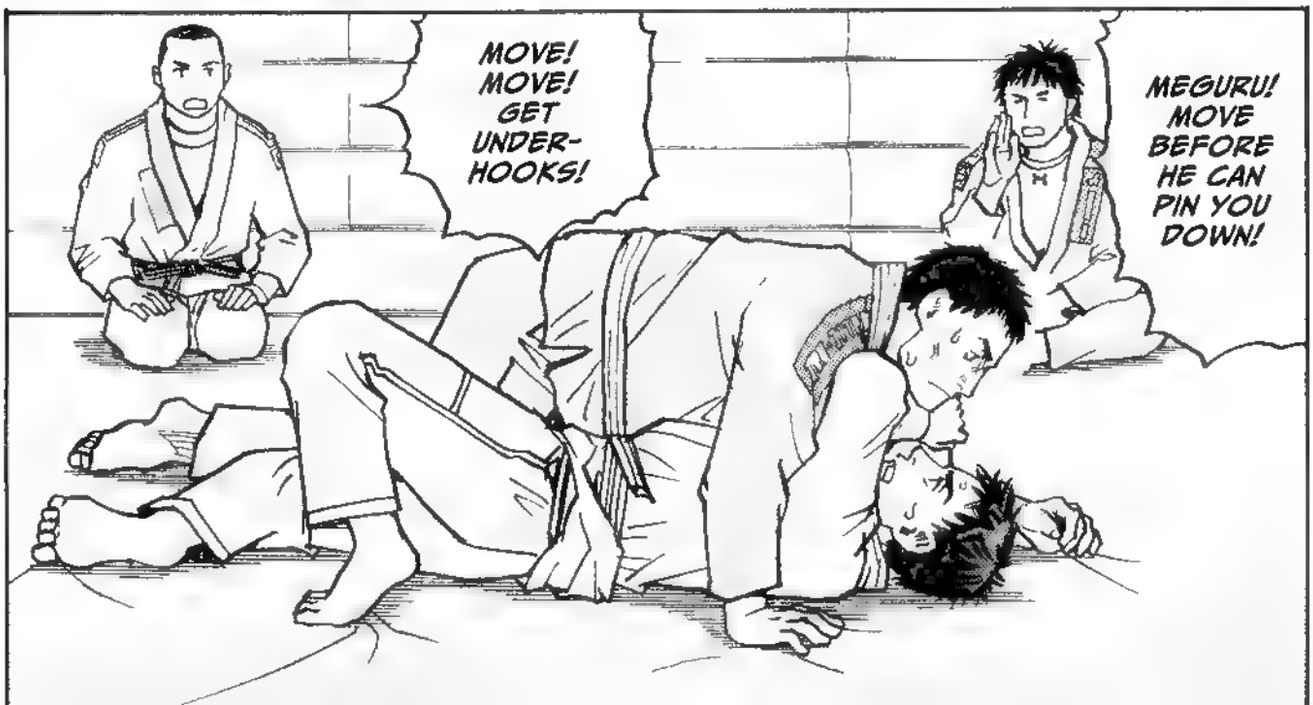

LIKE THIS, I GUESS.
HMM ...


0:00
21:00
Study
Sleep
Bath & dinner
Go home
Training at the gym
Get up & run
Break-fast
Go to school
Commute
School
9:00
12:00

mutter
MAYBE I SHOULD TAKE WEDNESDAYS OFF AND NOT GO TO THE GYM THEN...
mutter
mutter
BUT THEN I CAN USE THE GYM THE WHOLE DAY...
mutter

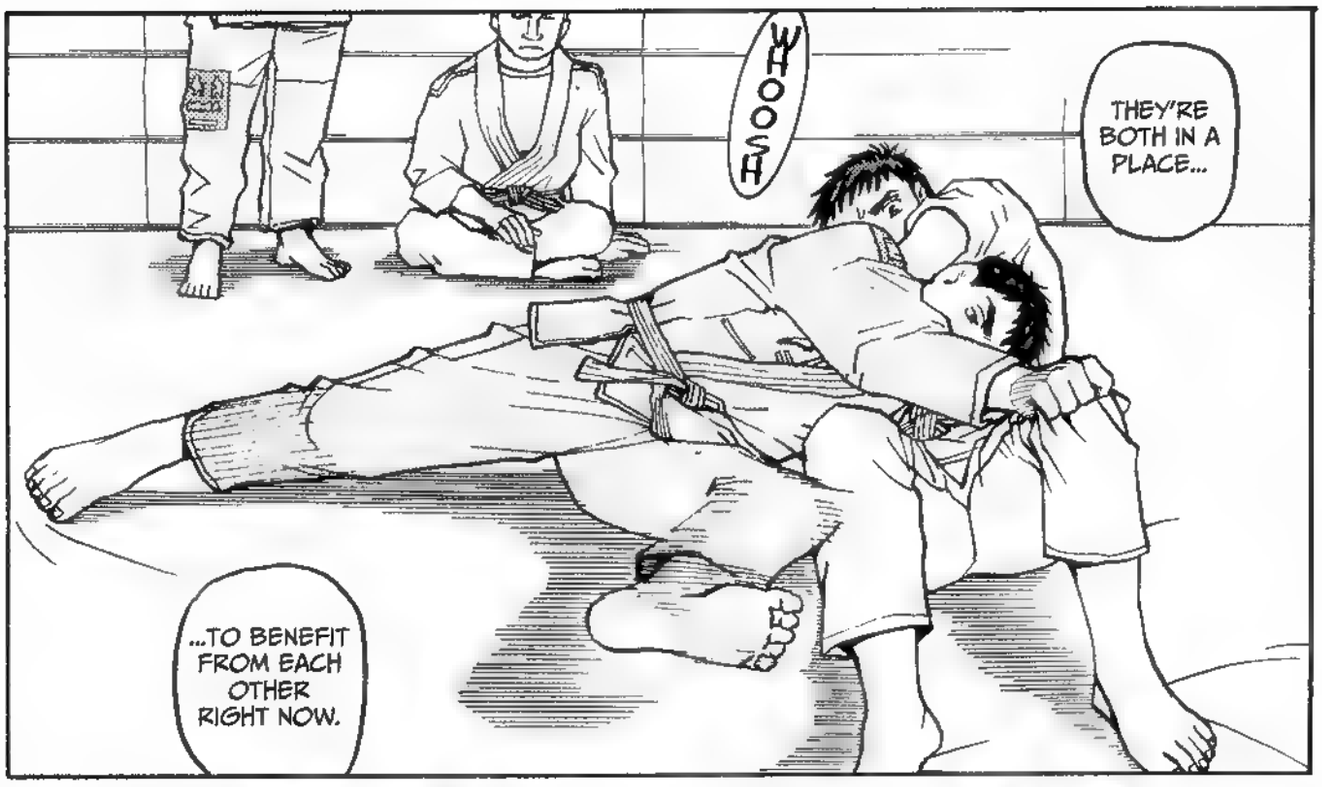
Fig hte
KICK BOXING
reB rew
MMA
JIUJITSU

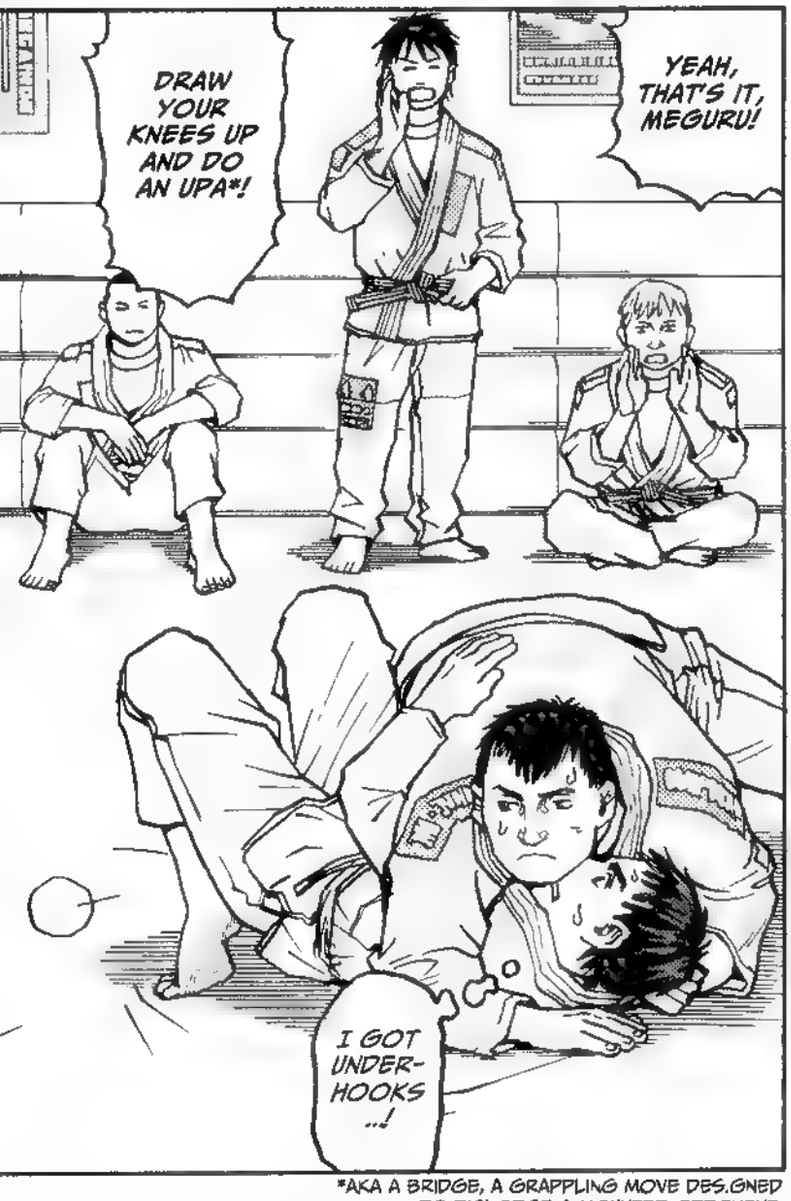
WELL, YOU KNOW HE WAS PRETTY WELL OVER-POWERED...
MEGURU'S BEEN TRAINING WITH WATANABE A LOT LATELY.
...IN THAT FRESHMAN TOURNA-MENT.

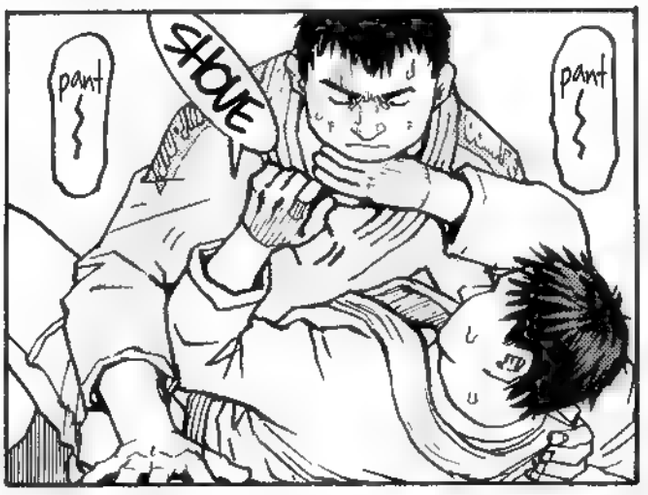

MOVE! MOVE! GET UNDER-HOOKS!
MEGURU! MOVE BEFORE HE CAN PIN YOU DOWN!

...
TAP TAP
BAM
I THINK HE'LL BE FINE.
IF MEGURU'S NOT CAREFUL, HE COULD GET HURT.
HE'S OVER 20 KG HEAVIER, THOUGH.
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT WATA-NABE'S MOVE-MENTS.
PRESS

THAT'S WHY HE'S HOLDING BACK AND BEING VERY PRECISE.
HE'D CRUSH MEGURU IF HE WENT AT HIM FULL-STRENGTH.
HE'S BEING REALLY CAREFUL WITH THAT KNEE SLIDE GUARD PASS.
WOW ...
RIGHT ?
OF COURSE HE'S UP AGAINST MEGURU, SO THAT'S PART OF IT.
TAP TAP
I'VE NEVER SEEN WATANABE GET THAT MANY SUBMISSIONS IN PRACTICE.
BUT IT'S GOOD TO HONE YOUR SKILLS LIKE THAT.
...BUT CAN'T GET A SUBMIS-SION...
AND WATANABE PROBABLY WANTS TO STOP BEING THAT GUY WHO RELIES ONLY ON PURE STRENGTH...
...SO HE NEEDS TO PRACTICE MOVING WHILE PINNED DOWN.
MEGURU LOST TO A POWER TYPE LAST TIME...







*AKA A BRIDGE, A GRAPPLING MOVE DESIGNED TO DISLODGE A MOUNTED OPPONENT.

ばっ
PULL HIS LEG IN TOWARDS YOUR STOMACH! THAT'S IT!
YOU DID IT, MEGURU!
ばん
WOO-HOO!

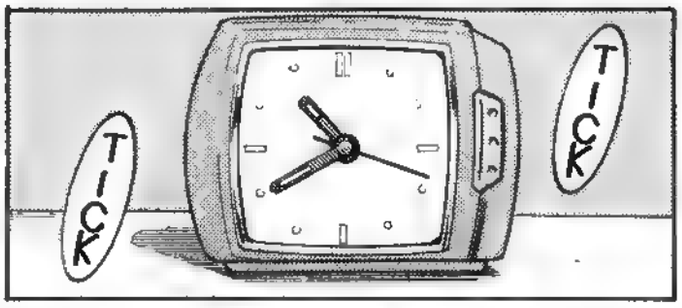
HUH?
GRAB
I GOT ON TOP OF HIM!
I REVERSED HIS MOUNT ...
WHA?
Y-
YEAH!
WANNA TRY IT?
A SWITCH.
IT'S A WRESTLING MOVE.
WH-WHAT WAS THAT?!
TAP TAP

Wipe

ぱくぱく

I'M HOME!

IT... IT'S NO USE...
I'M SO SLEEPY ...
I'LL JUST LIE DOWN FOR A MINUTE...

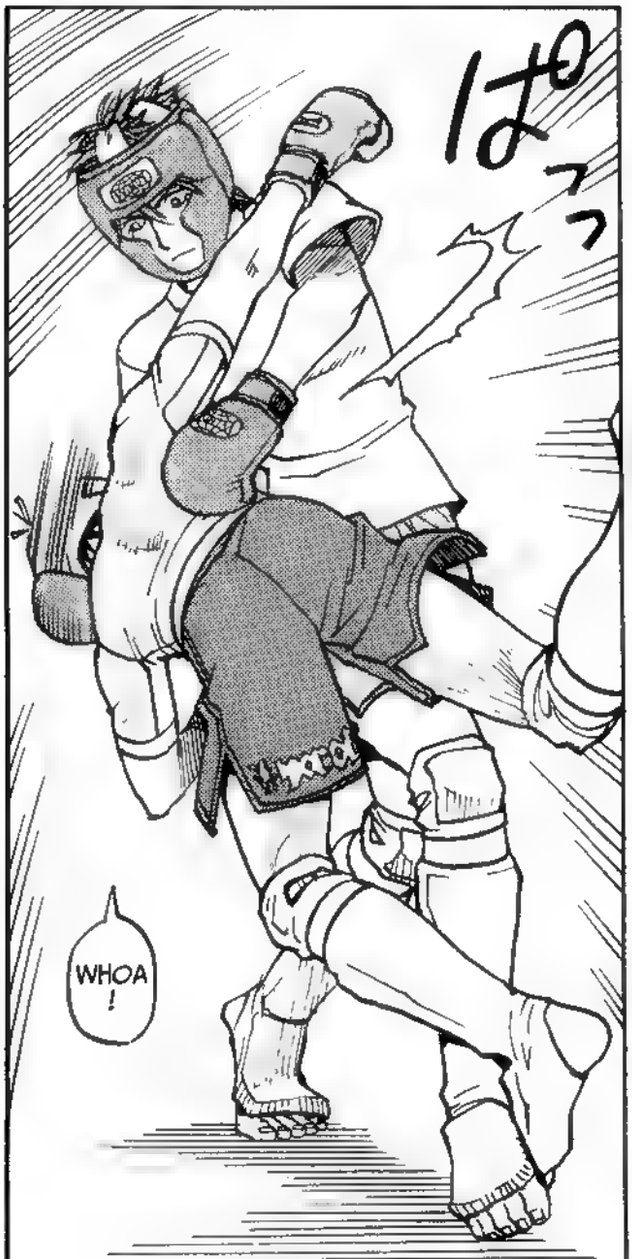

TICK
TICK

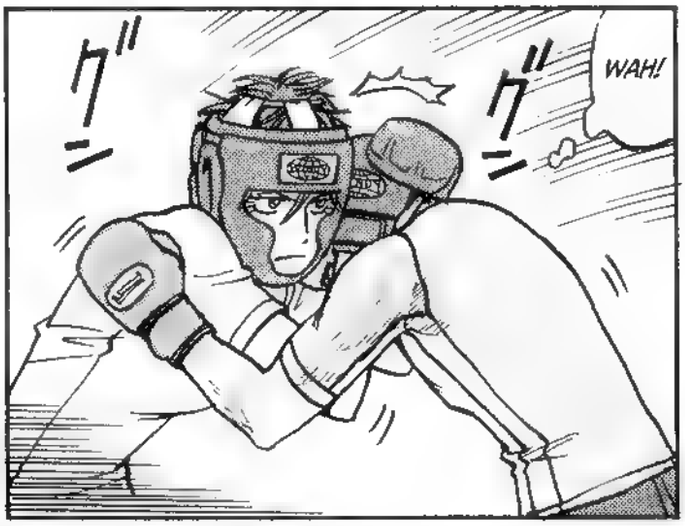
nod
nod
DOZING OFF

ZZZ

NOW I DON'T HAVE TIME TO RUN THIS MORNING!
FLAIL
OOH...
FLAIL
IT'S SEVEN ALREADY ?!
ガバーン
チュン…チュン
STUDYING AT NIGHT ISN'T GONNA WORK...
MAYBE I SHOULD GO TO BED RIGHT AFTER DINNER AND GET UP LIKE AT FOUR...
SEE YA LATER!

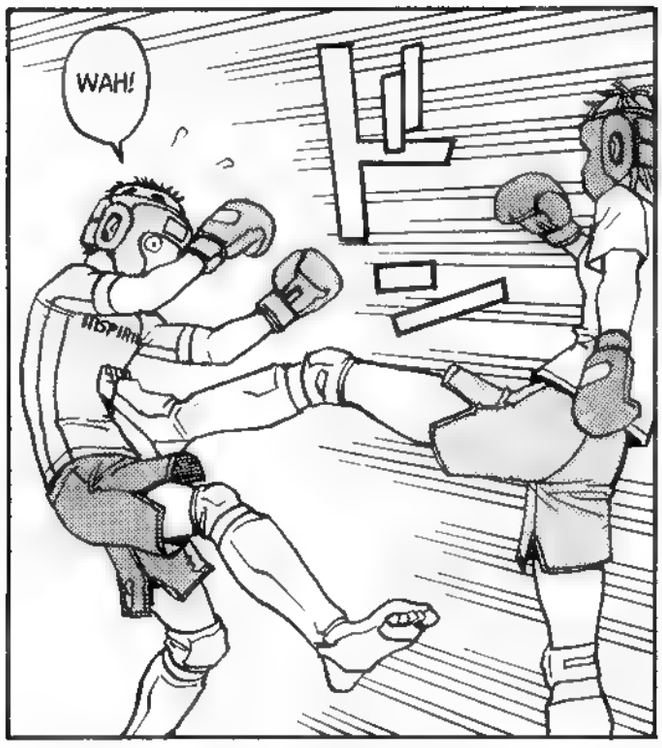
GRAB

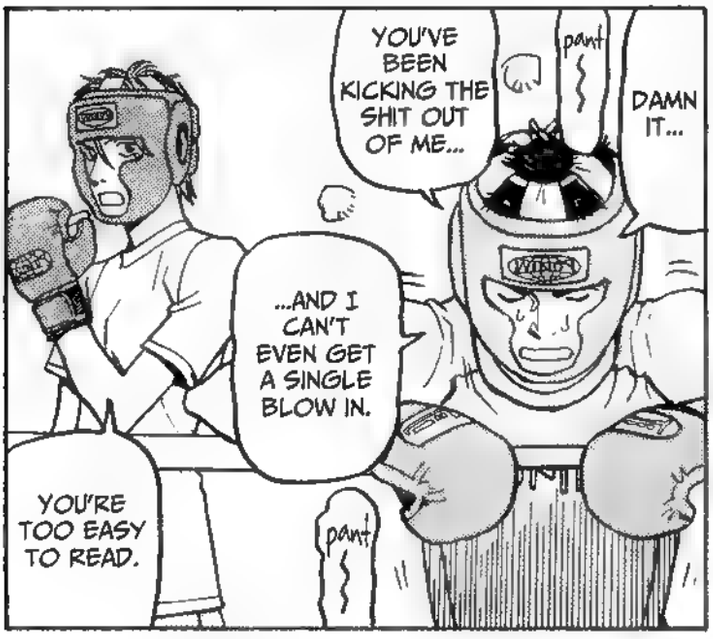

WHOA!

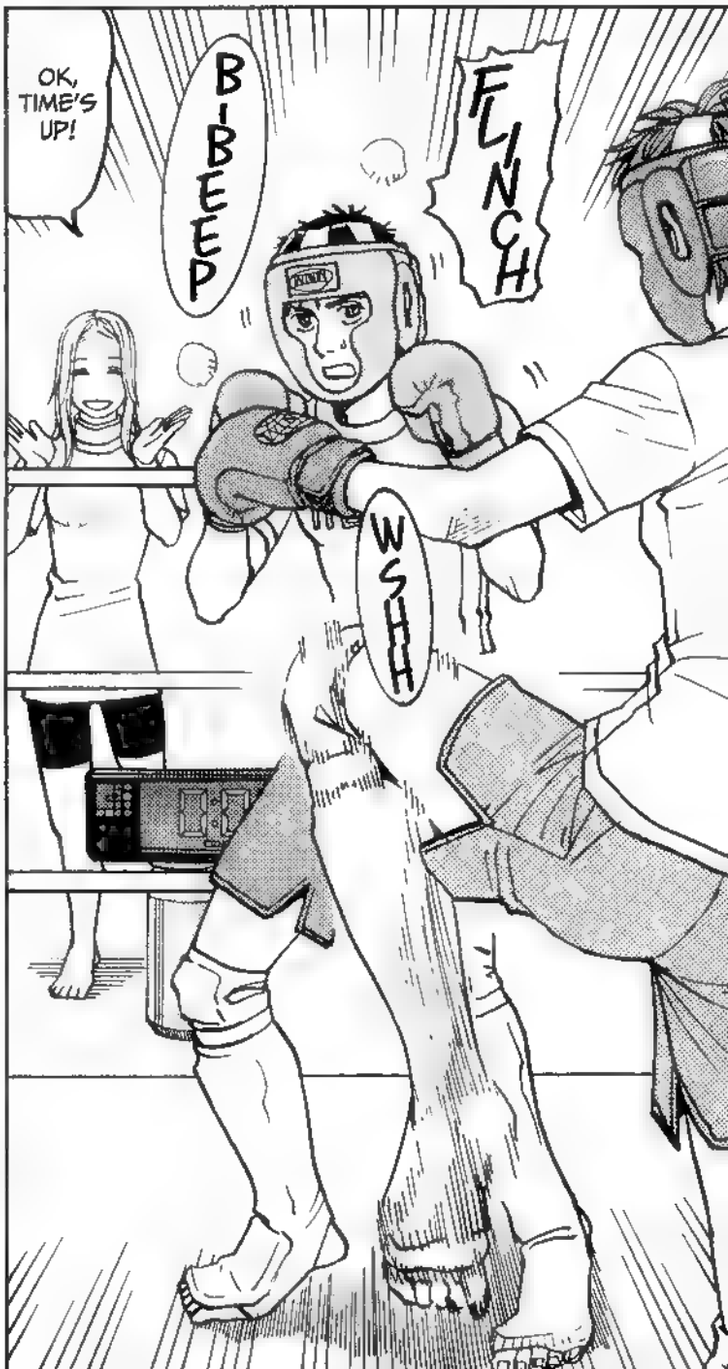

WAH!

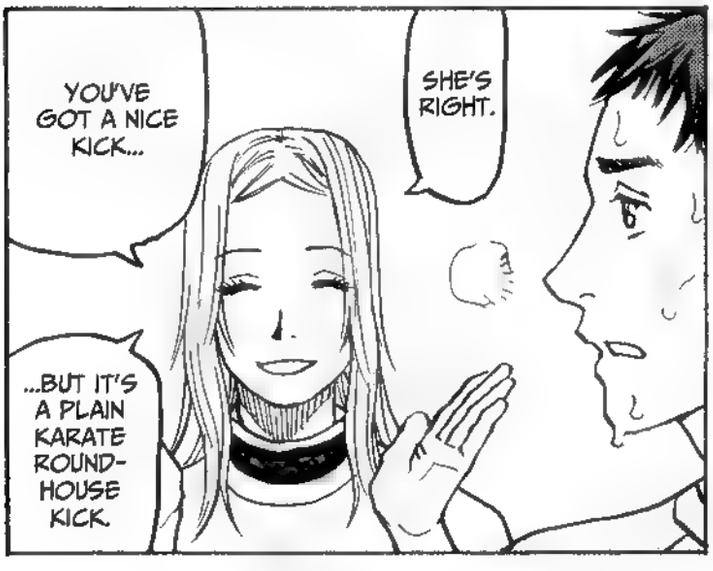
DON'T LOOK DOWN, MEGURU!

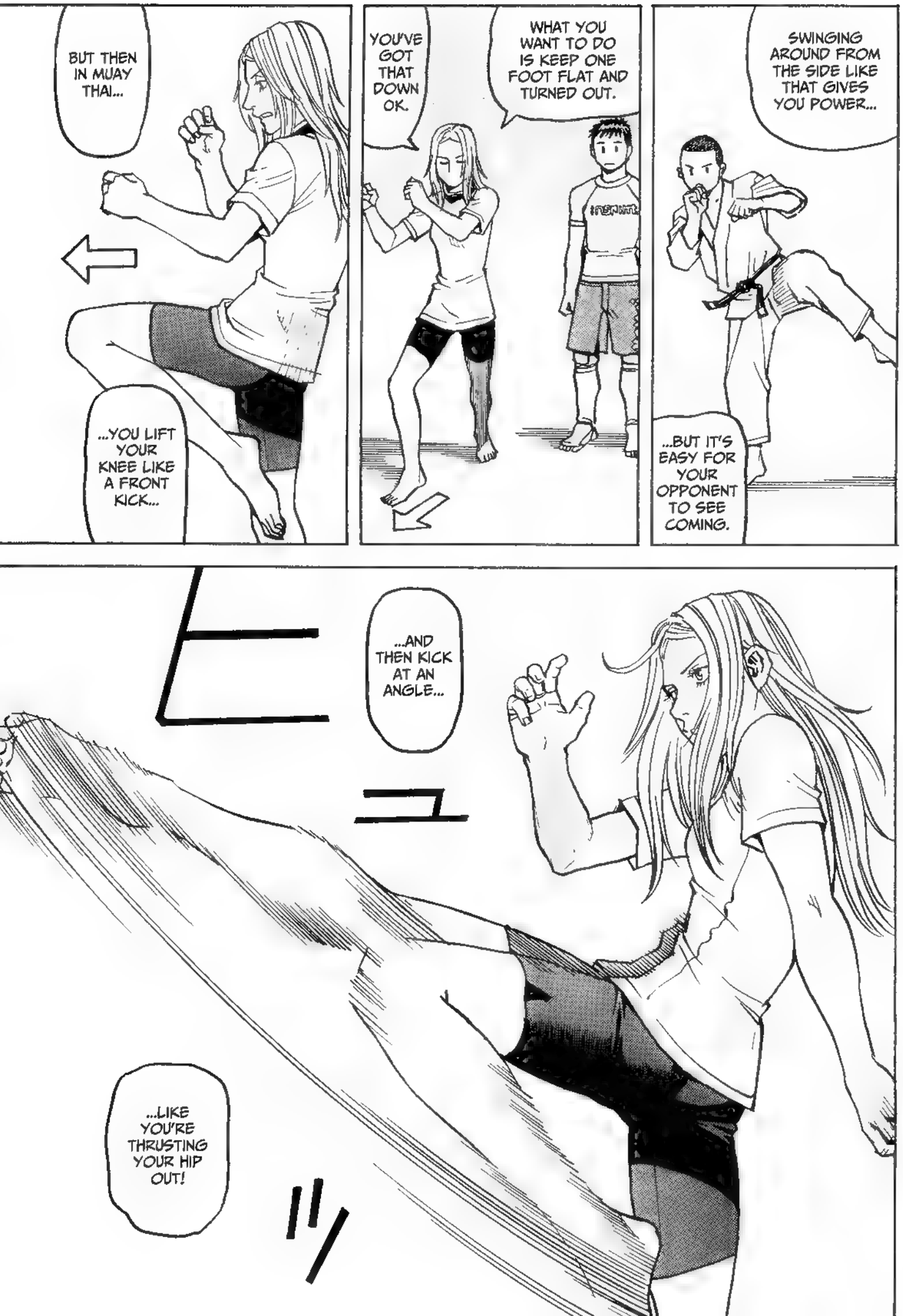
MEGURU'S BEEN DOING A LOT OF STAND-UP SPARRING WITH KAMIYA LATELY...
YEAH, WELL...
OK, GET UP.
pant
pant
IT'S THAT LEFT MIDDLE KICK AND THE CLINCH.
MAKI MAY LACK POWER BECAUSE SHE'S A GIRL...
ヒリ
ユリ
...HE'LL NEVER BEAT TAKASHI YAMABUKI.
...BUT IF HE CAN'T BREAK THAT MUAY THAI STYLE...


WAH!

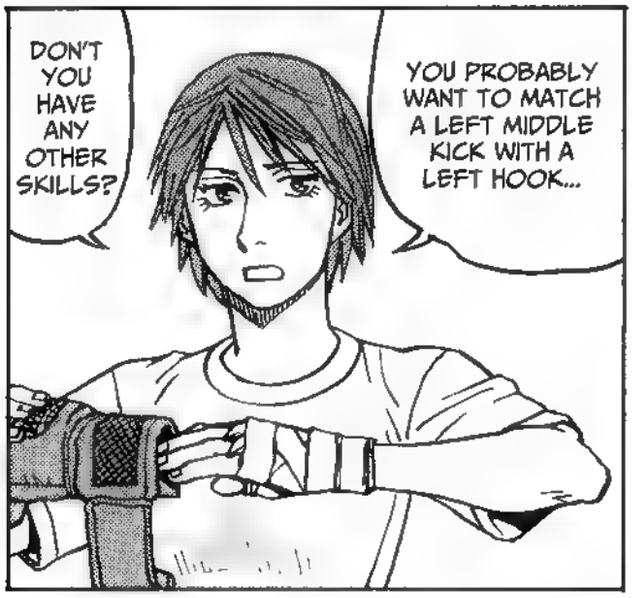

YOU'VE BEEN KICKING THE SHIT OUT OF ME...
pant
DAMN IT...
...AND I CAN'T EVEN GET A SINGLE BLOW IN.
YOU'RE TOO EASY TO READ.
pant


OK, TIME'S UP!
BIBEEP
FLINCH
WSHH

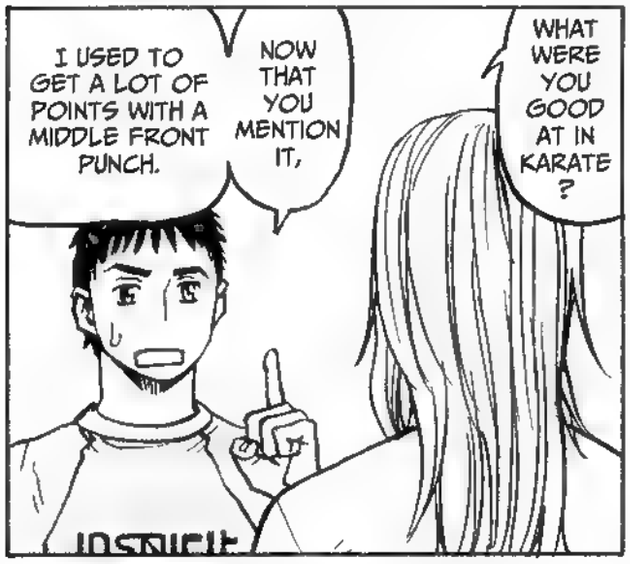

YOU'VE GOT A NICE KICK...
SHE'S RIGHT.
...BUT IT'S A PLAIN KARATE ROUND-HOUSE KICK.

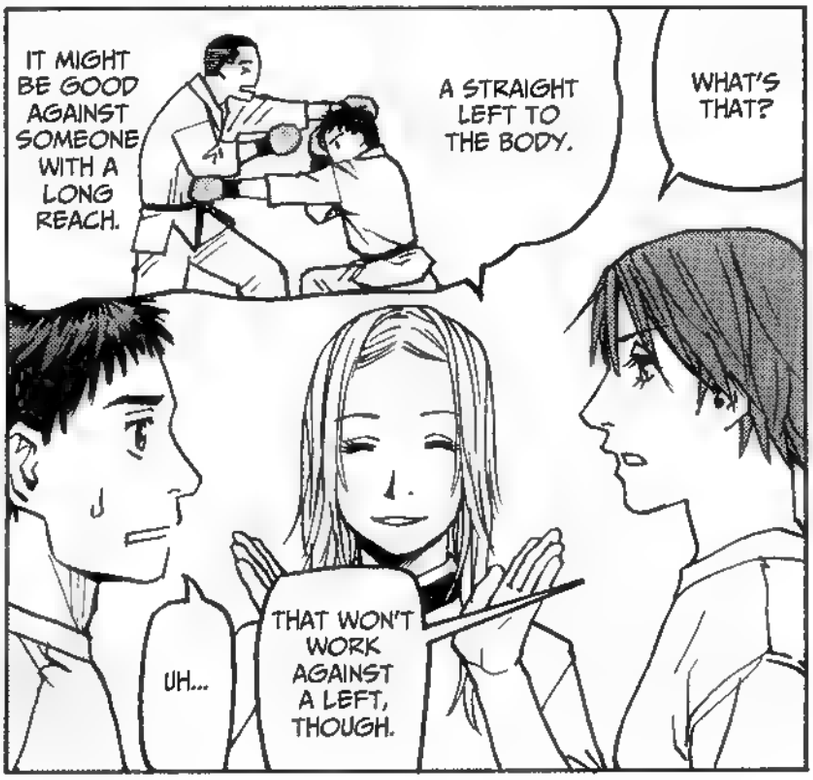

BUT THEN IN MUAY THAI...
...YOU LIFT YOUR KNEE LIKE A FRONT KICK...
YOU'VE GOT THAT DOWN OK.
WHAT YOU WANT TO DO IS KEEP ONE FOOT FLAT AND TURNED OUT.
SWINGING AROUND FROM THE SIDE LIKE THAT GIVES YOU POWER...
...BUT IT'S EASY FOR YOUR OPPONENT TO SEE COMING.
...AND THEN KICK AT AN ANGLE...
...LIKE YOU'RE THRUSTING YOUR HIP OUT!

*TEEP (FOOT-THRUST) AND TEH CHIANG (DIAGONAL/ANGLE KICK) ARE THE TWO MOST COMMON KICKS IN MUAY THAI.



Front kick
Teep*
WITH MAKI'S KICKS...
...HER FRONT AND MIDDLE KICKS START THE SAME, SO YOU COULDN'T TELL WHAT WAS COMING, RIGHT?
Teh chiang*
Middle kick

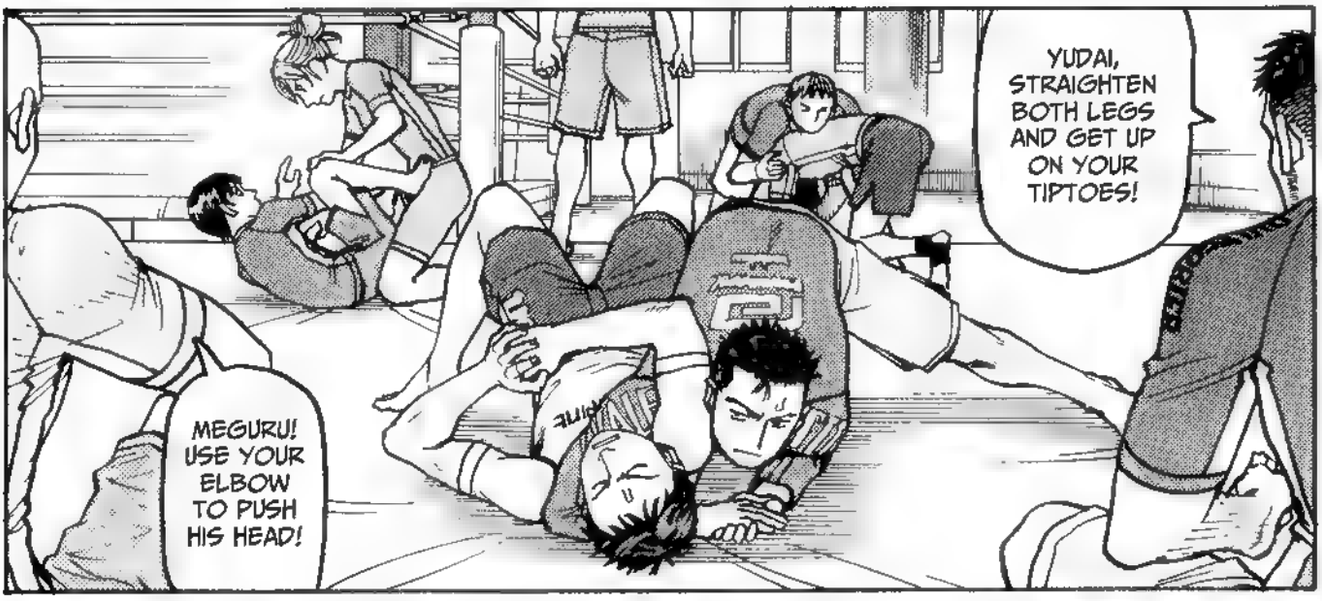


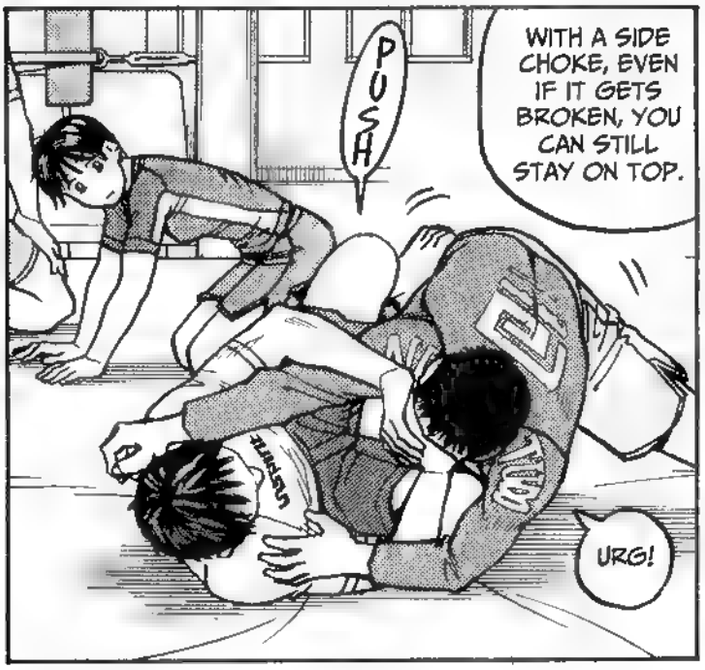

IT MIGHT BE GOOD AGAINST SOMEONE WITH A LONG REACH.
A STRAIGHT LEFT TO THE BODY.
WHAT'S THAT?
UH...
THAT WON'T WORK AGAINST A LEFT, THOUGH.

MAYBE LIKE THIS?
WOOSH
WOOSH
A LEFT FRONT PUNCH...
DO I EVEN REMEMBER HOW TO DO THAT?
Wake up at 4 and study!
-ZZZ-
...
ばくばく
I'M HOME.
MAYBE I SHOULD LEAN IN A BIT?
WOOSH
WOOSH
BUT THERE'RE TAKEDOWN ATTEMPTS TO CONSIDER, TOO...
がばっ

じた
ばた

Ramy
KICK BOXING
Fighter's
Brew
無料体験


YUDAI, STRAIGHTEN BOTH LEGS AND GET UP ON YOUR TIPTOES!
MEGURU! USE YOUR ELBOW TO PUSH HIS HEAD!


WITH A SIDE CHOKE, EVEN IF IT GETS BROKEN, YOU CAN STILL STAY ON TOP.
PUSH
URG!

YUDAI'S BEEN USING THAT SIDE CHOKE A LOT RECENTLY.
YEAH, 'CAUSE IF YOU MESS UP ON AN ARMBAR, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR POSITION.

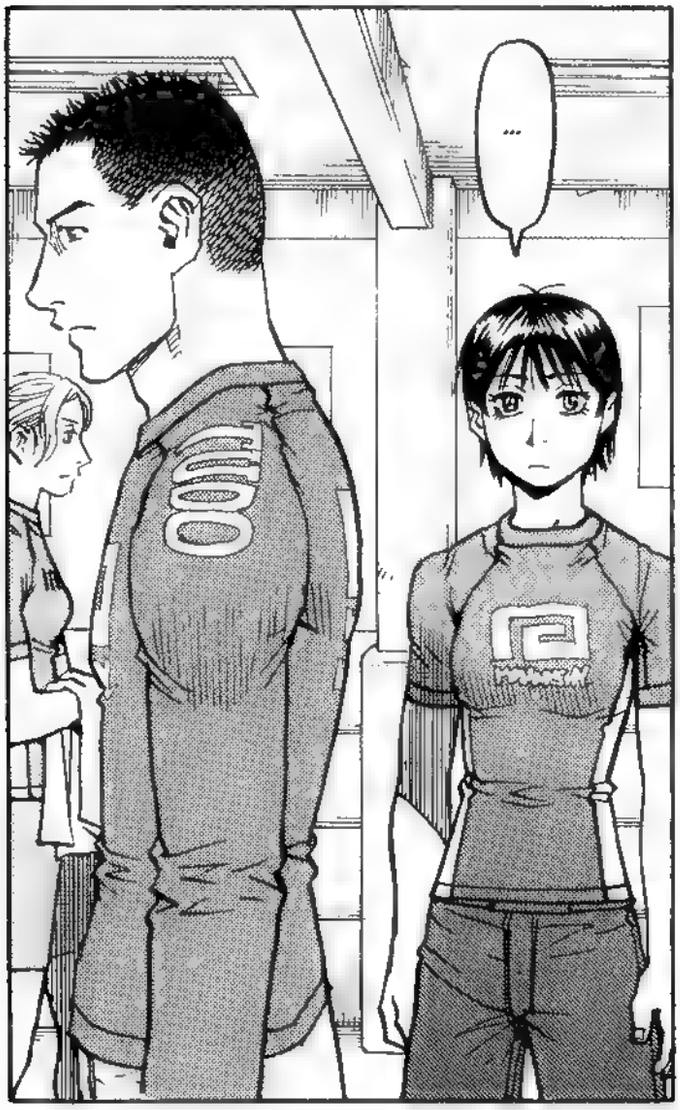
...
ALMOST HAD HIM...
TCH!
pant
pant
WHA...
GRIP
A SWITCH!
OH!
BAS-TARD...
HE'S BECOMING A REAL PAIN IN THE ASS.
DID HE LEARN THIS FROM WATA-NABE?

PUSH
TWIST
AH!
FUCK!

IS HE GONNA ESCAPE AGAIN ?!
AH!
ダッ
?!
TEAR
?!
ばっ
!

YUDAI, UM...
WHAT ...?

BIBEEP
ALL RIGHT, TIME'S UP.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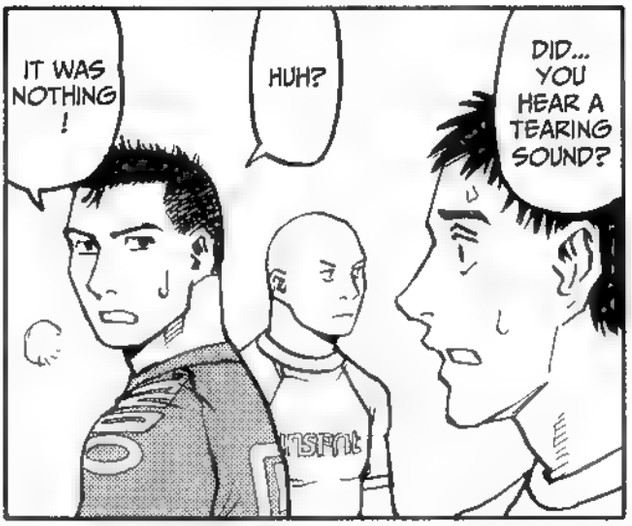
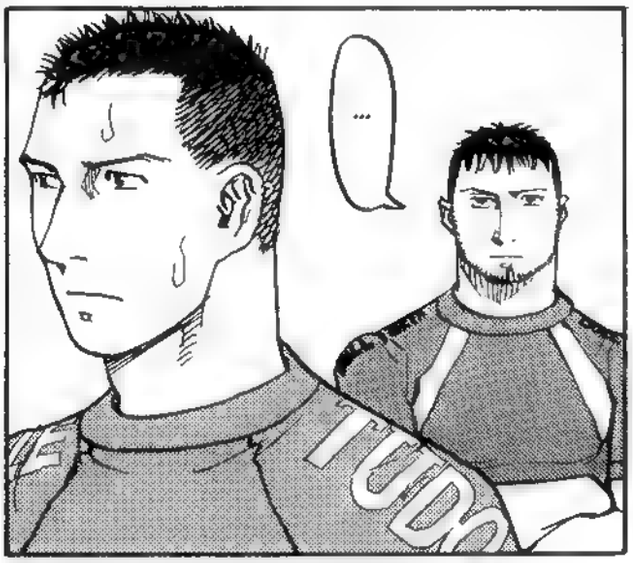

DID... YOU HEAR A TEARING SOUND?
HUH?
IT WAS NOTHING !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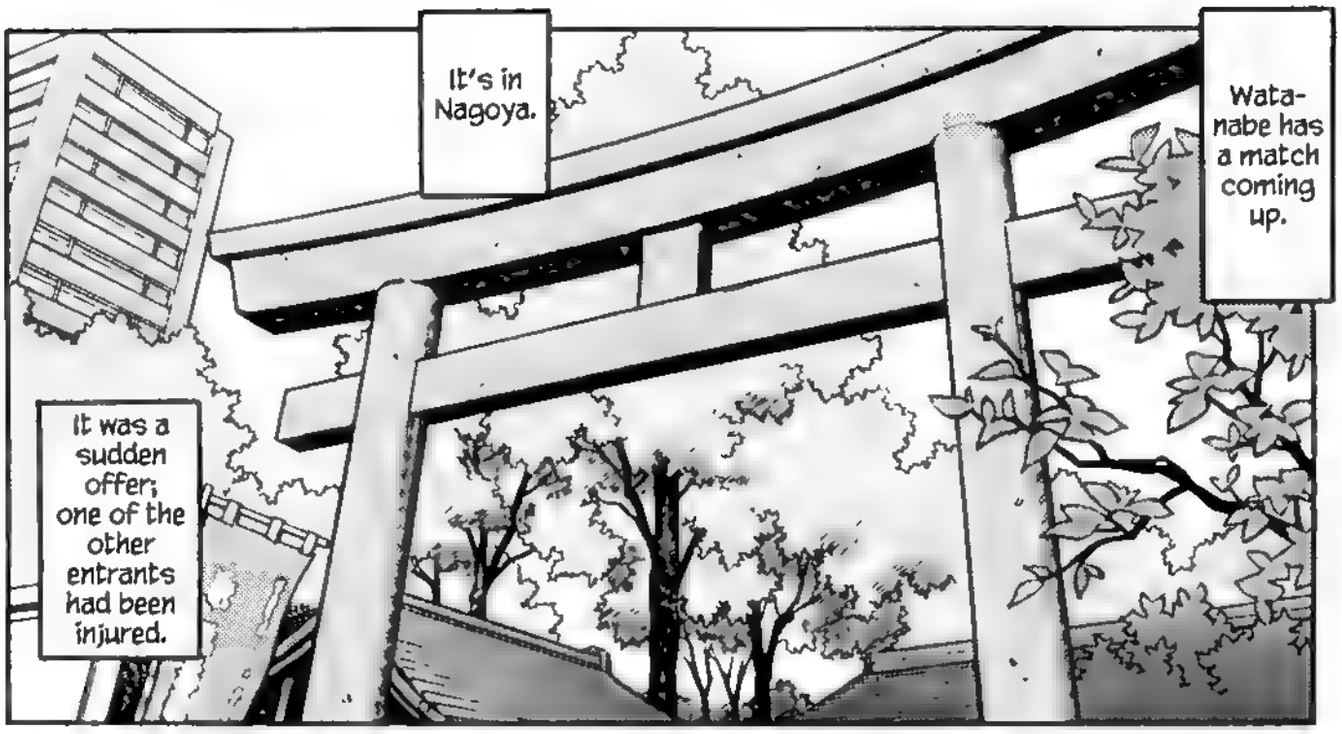
Chapter 28 | The Night Before


It's in Nagoya.
Wata-nabe has a match coming up.
It was a sudden offer; one of the other entrants had been injured.

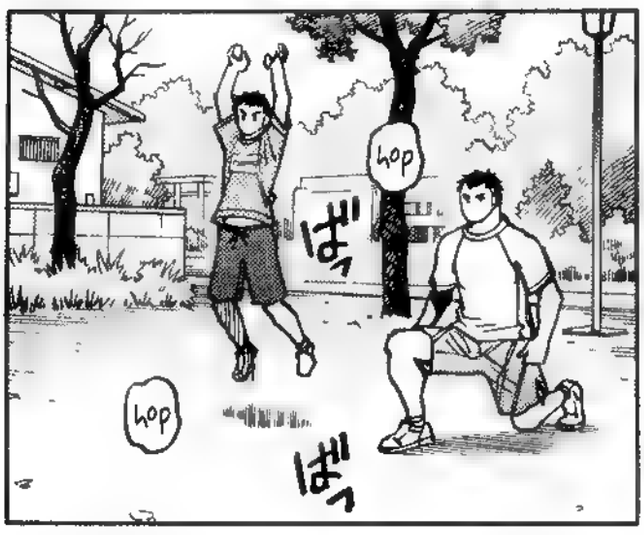
gasp
gasp

OK, TAKE IT EASY ON THE WAY DOWN.
gasp
THREE MORE SETS.
gasp

The match has been scheduled on the eve of the Amateur Shooto Kanto Championship.
He only has two weeks to prepare and to get down to 77.5 kg.

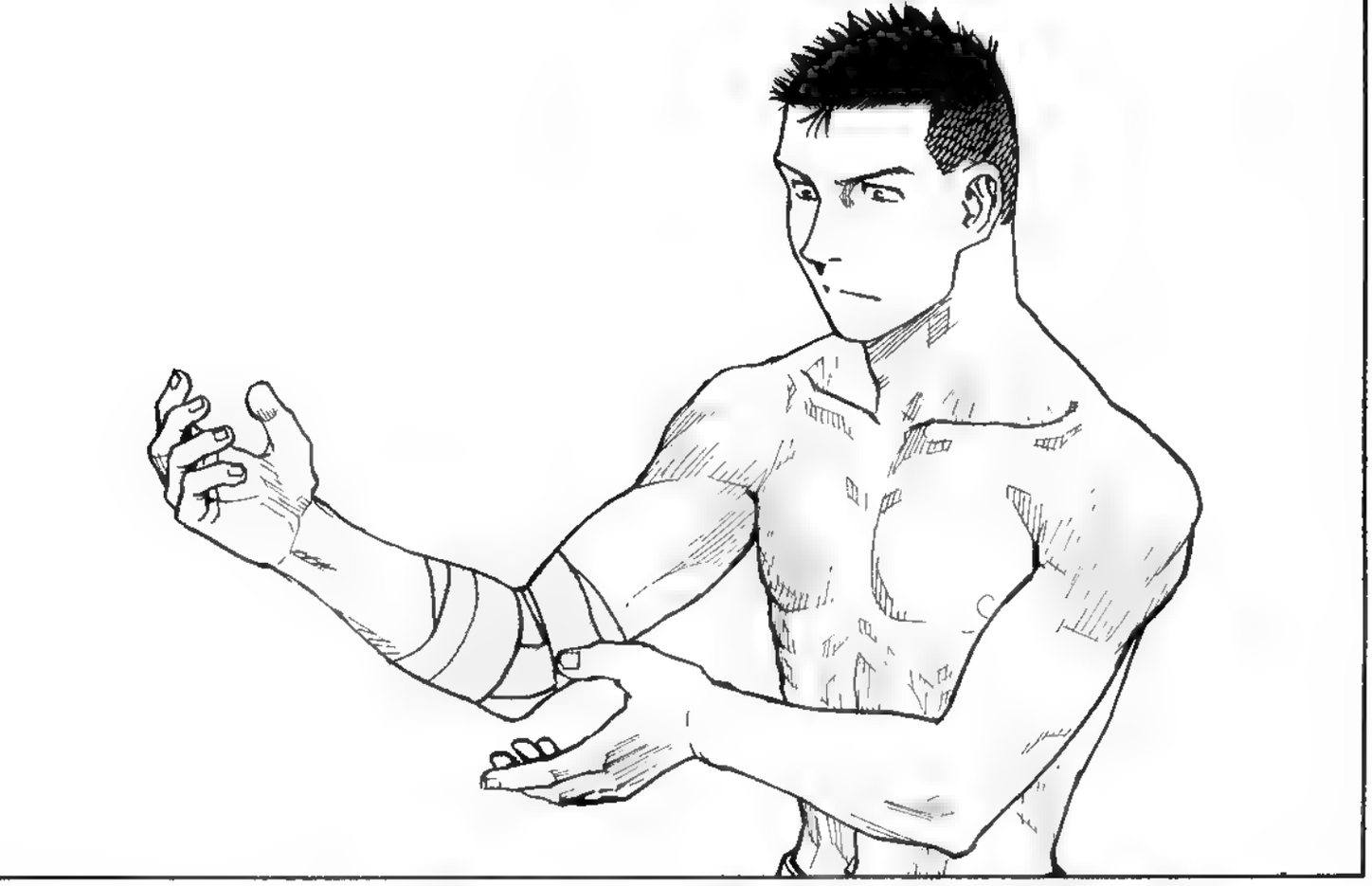
WATA-NABE.
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE ME TO TRAIN WITH?
...
HMM ...
'CAUSE YOU SEEMED FREE...
I DO HAVE COLLEGE EXAMS TO STUDY FOR, YOU KNOW...

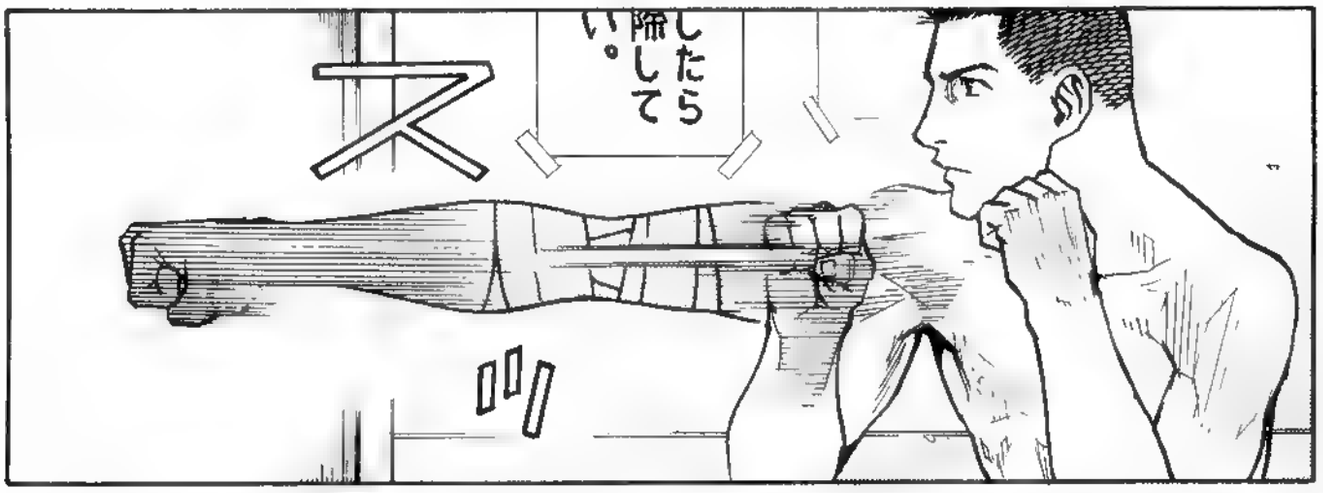
SWOOSH
SWOOSH

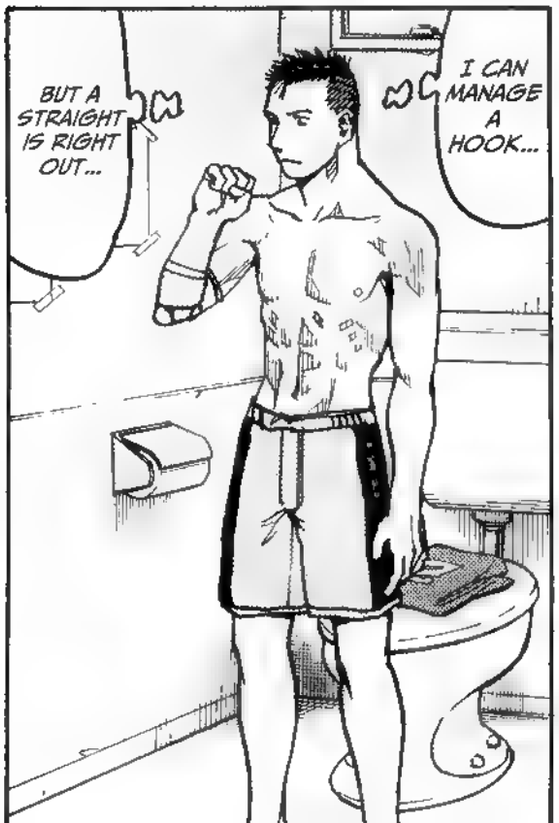

hop
ばっ
hop
ばっ

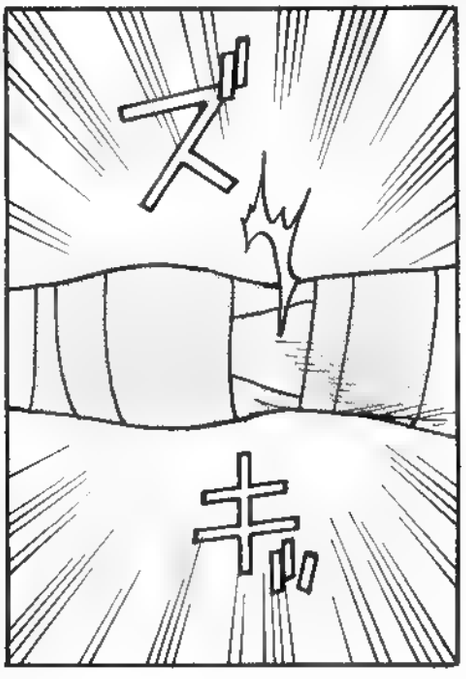
I don't know if I can really keep up with a pro training regimen...
...but I have to try.

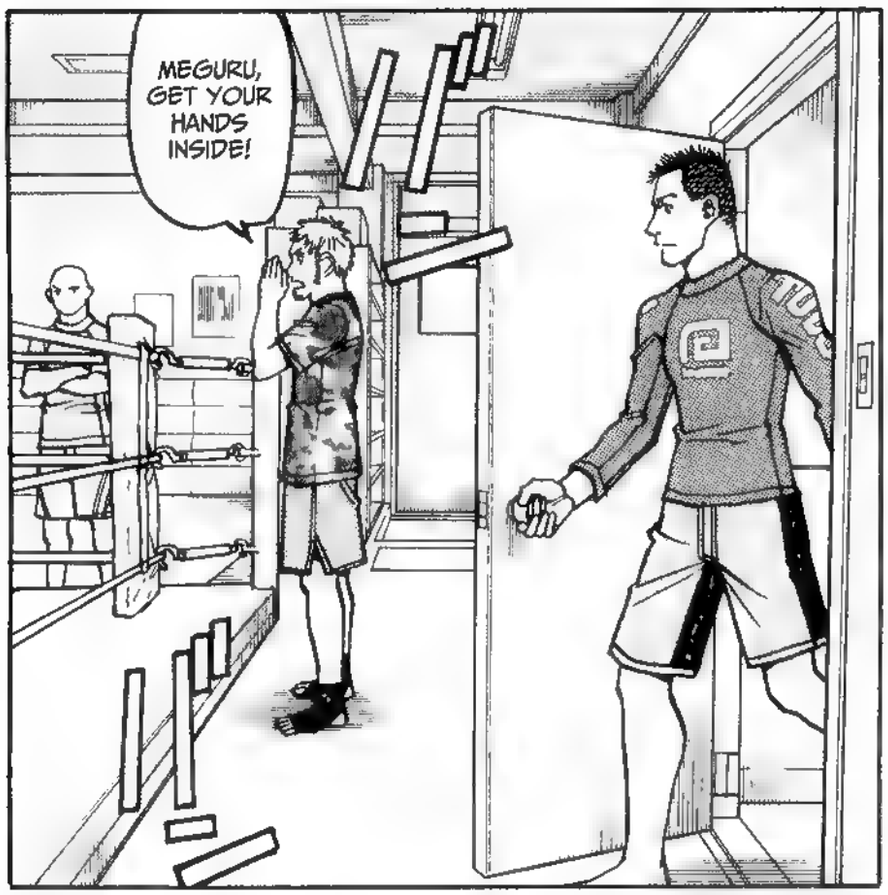
WOOSH
...
WOOSH
I'M TRYING TO SEE IF I CAN TURN IT INTO A TAKEDOWN OR A LEFT HOOK...
OH. YEAH.
A STRAIGHT LEFT TO THE BODY?
DON'T LOWER YOUR EYES.
TRY THE SAME FORM AS WITH A JAB.
OK.
...SO I FIGURED I'D TRY FOR A LEFT.
I'VE NEVER LANDED A RIGHT PUNCH IN A MATCH BEFORE...
IF YOU BEND DOWN, THEY'LL JUST BACKSTEP AWAY AS IF YOU'RE MOVING IN FOR A TAKEDOWN.

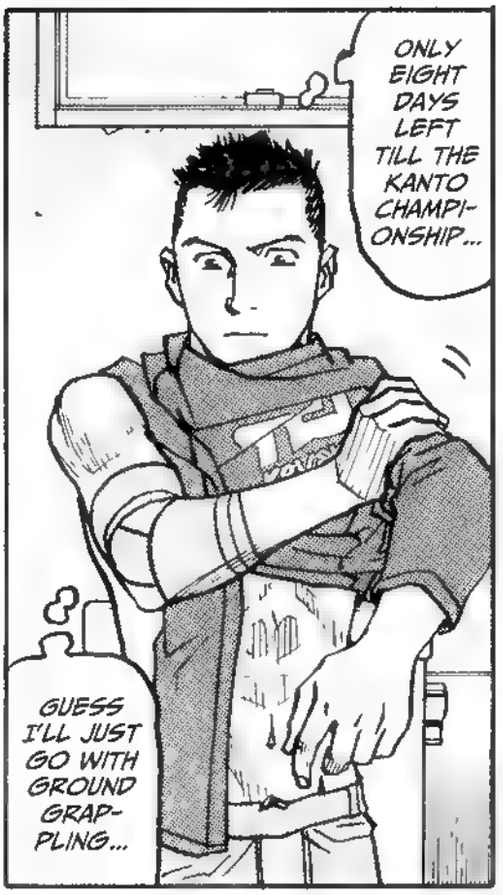



したら
除して
い。


BUT A STRAIGHT IS RIGHT OUT...
I CAN MANAGE A HOOK...

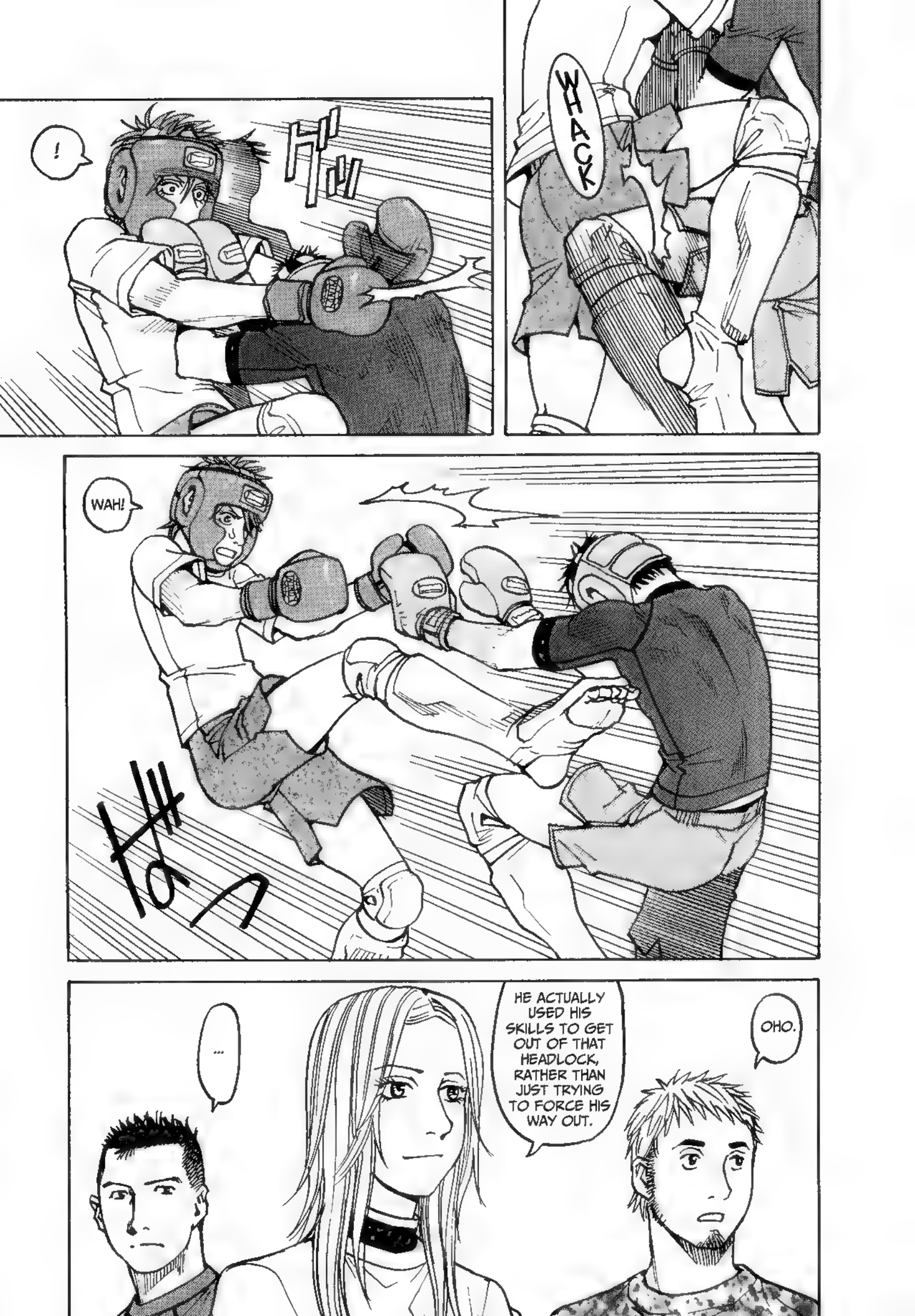



MEGURU, GET YOUR HANDS INSIDE!


ONLY EIGHT DAYS LEFT TILL THE KANTO CHAMPI-ONSHIP...
GUESS I'LL JUST GO WITH GROUND GRAP-PLING...

ヒュ

GRAB
...


!
WHACK
WAH!
...
HE ACTUALLY USED HIS SKILLS TO GET OUT OF THAT HEADLOCK, RATHER THAN JUST TRYING TO FORCE HIS WAY OUT.
OHO.

THIS IS YOUR LAST ROUND OF SPARRING!
OK, STAY COOL!
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DIVIDE HER ATTENTION WITH JABS AND LEG KICKS...
NOW I JUST NEED TO GET IN CLOSE...
WINDY
DAMN HIM...
WHEN DID HE LEARN TO COUNTER A LEFT MIDDLE WITH A LEG KICK?

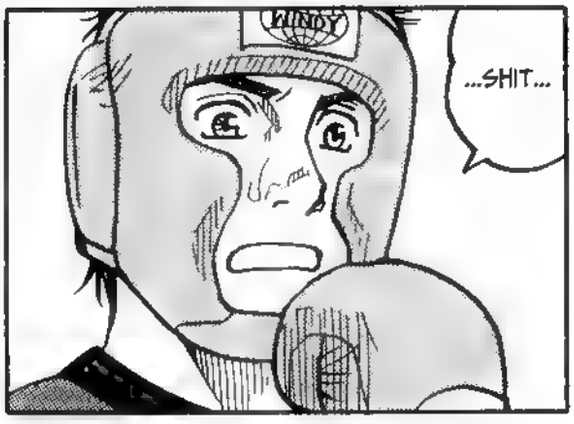
HERE I GO!
OK, JUST SUCK IT UP!
A JAB?
FLINCH
NO, WAIT.
LOWER ?!

SHE RESPONDED ?!
GAH!
MY TIMING'S BETTER!
DON'T FREAK OUT!

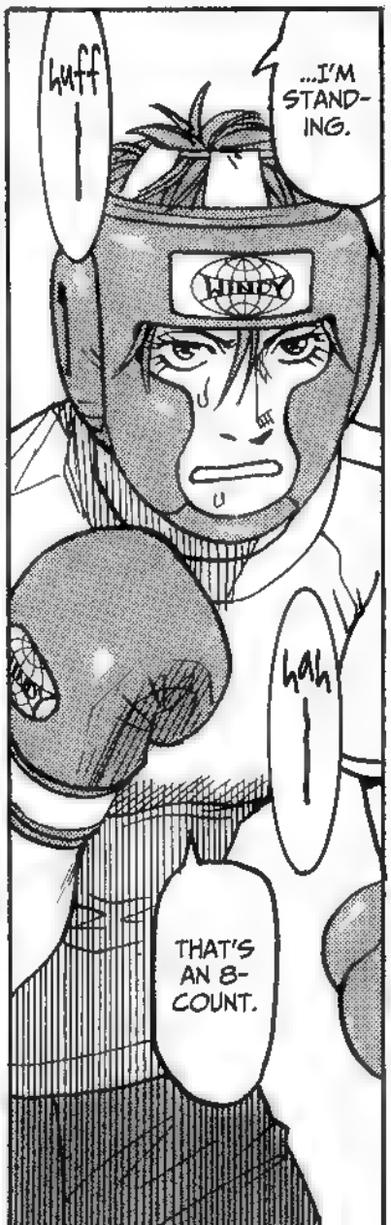
DID I GET HER?
HUH?
WINDY
OH?
THWUMP
HUH?
YOU HIT HER RIGHT IN THE GUT...
UH-OH! MEGURU!
HUH?
DOWN! DOWN!

HUUH ?
HUH ?
LOOOOK WHAT YOU DIIID!
CONFUSED
CONFUSED
LOOK WHAT YOU DIIID!

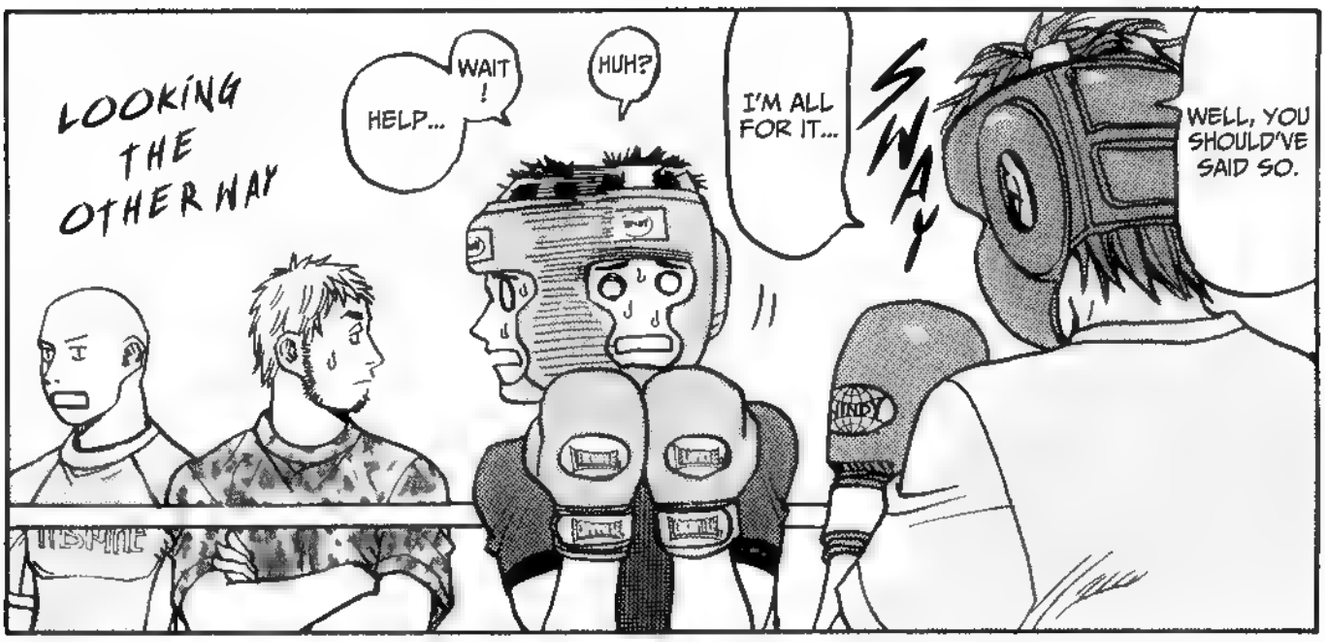
WINDY


WINDY
...SHIT...

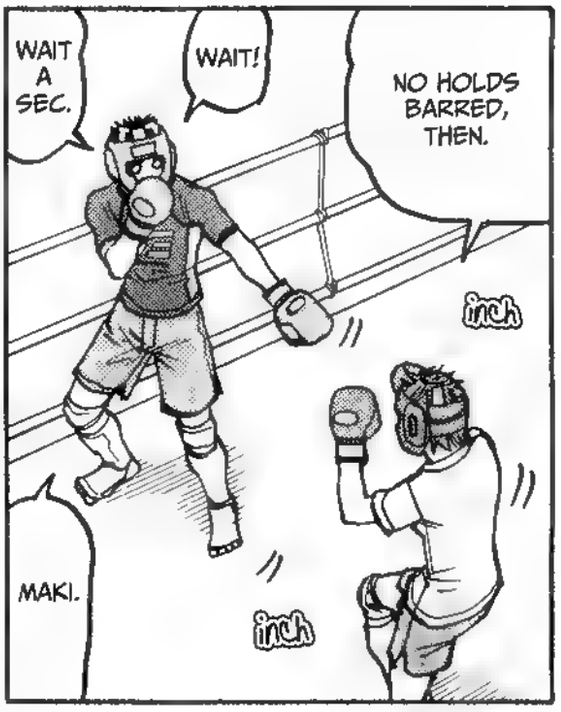
SO THAT'S HOW YOU WANNA PLAY, EH...?
HEY... MEGURU ...
Meeeeg
Eeeeek

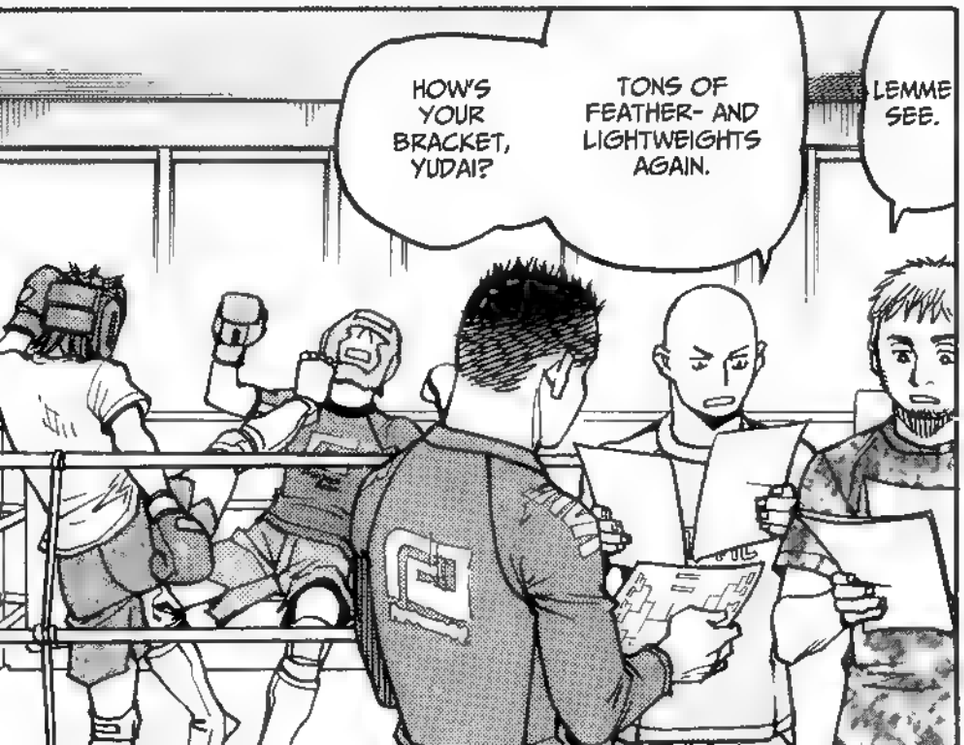

huff
...I'M STAND-ING.
WINDY
hah
THAT'S AN 8-COUNT.

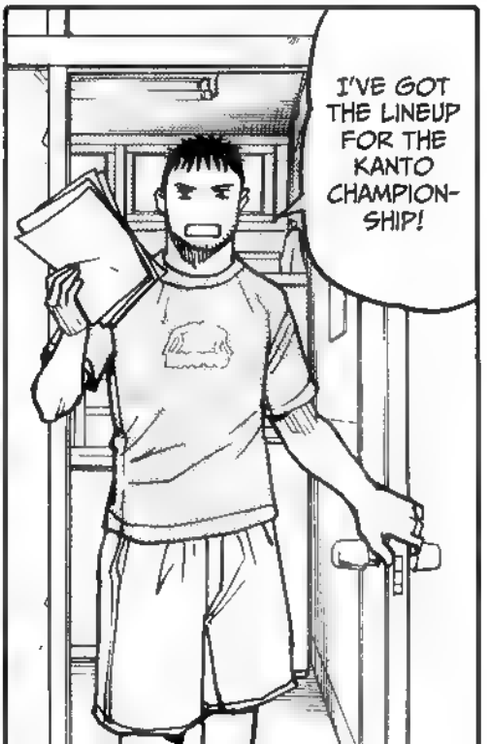
!
SWAY
Fighters Brew

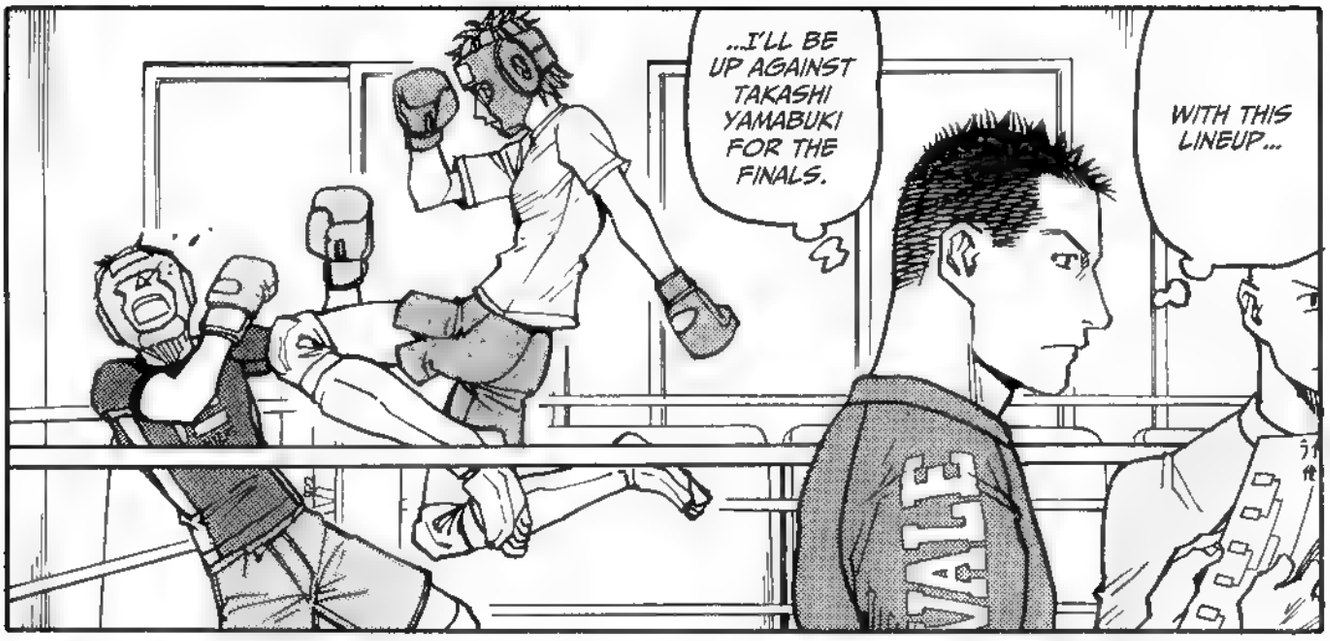

LOOKING THE OTHER WAY
HELP...
WAIT!
HUH?
I'M ALL FOR IT...
SWAY
WELL, YOU SHOULD'VE SAID SO.

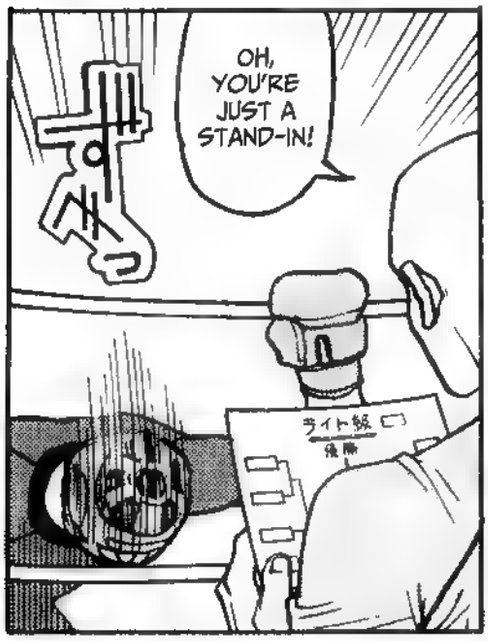
GIRLS SHOULDN'T DO MARTIAL ARTS!
...IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?

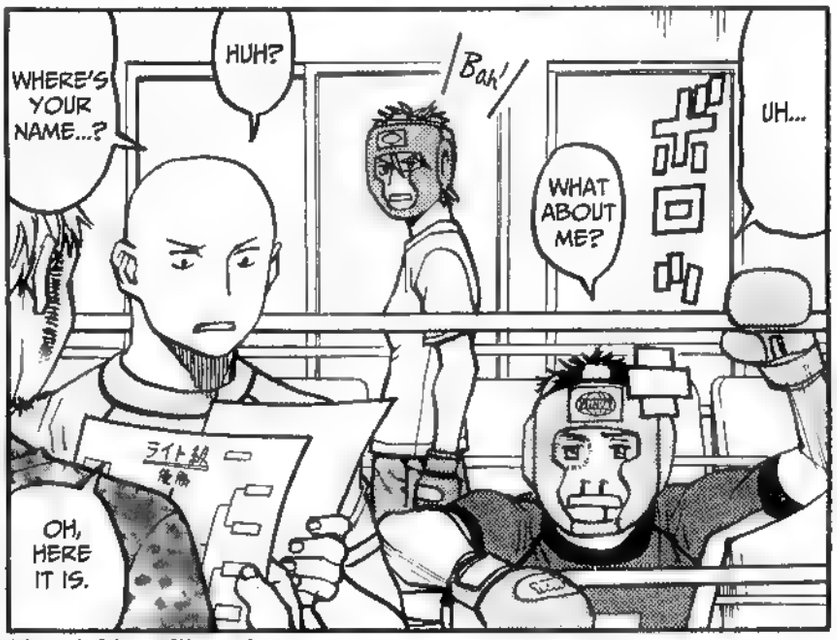

WAIT A SEC.
WAIT!
NO HOLDS BARRED, THEN.
inch
inch
MAKI.


HOW'S YOUR BRACKET, YUDAI?
TONS OF FEATHER- AND LIGHTWEIGHTS AGAIN.
LEMME SEE.


I'VE GOT THE LINEUP FOR THE KANTO CHAMPION-SHIP!





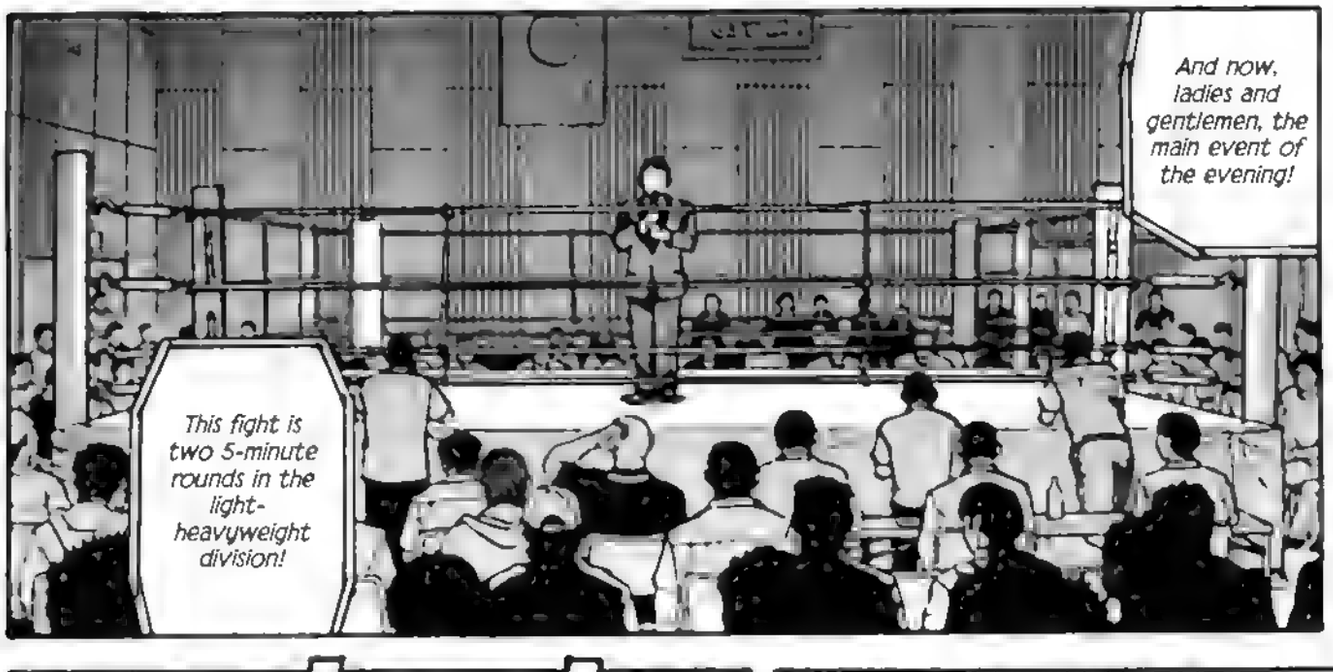


SHEET: LIGHTWE.GHT DIVISION

YUDAI, I WANT A WORD WITH YOU IN THE OFFICE.
YOU'D BETTER KEEP TRAINING. THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE WHO GOES OVER THE WEIGHT LIMIT.
WAHH ...
NOT SURPRISING WITH YOUR TRACK RECORD.
reversal

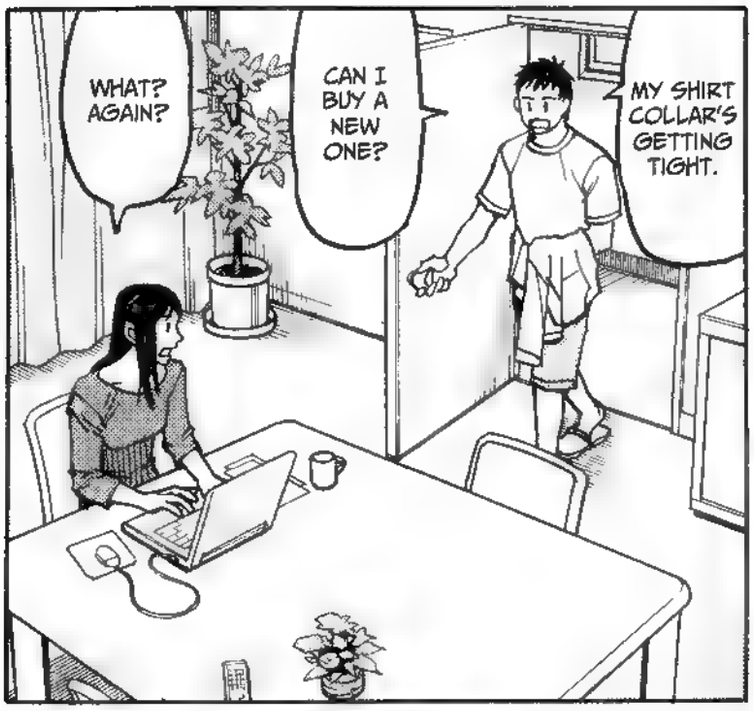
!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
YUDAI.
...
glare
!
LET ME SEE YOUR RIGHT ELBOW.

One week later, Nagoya
ASNAL

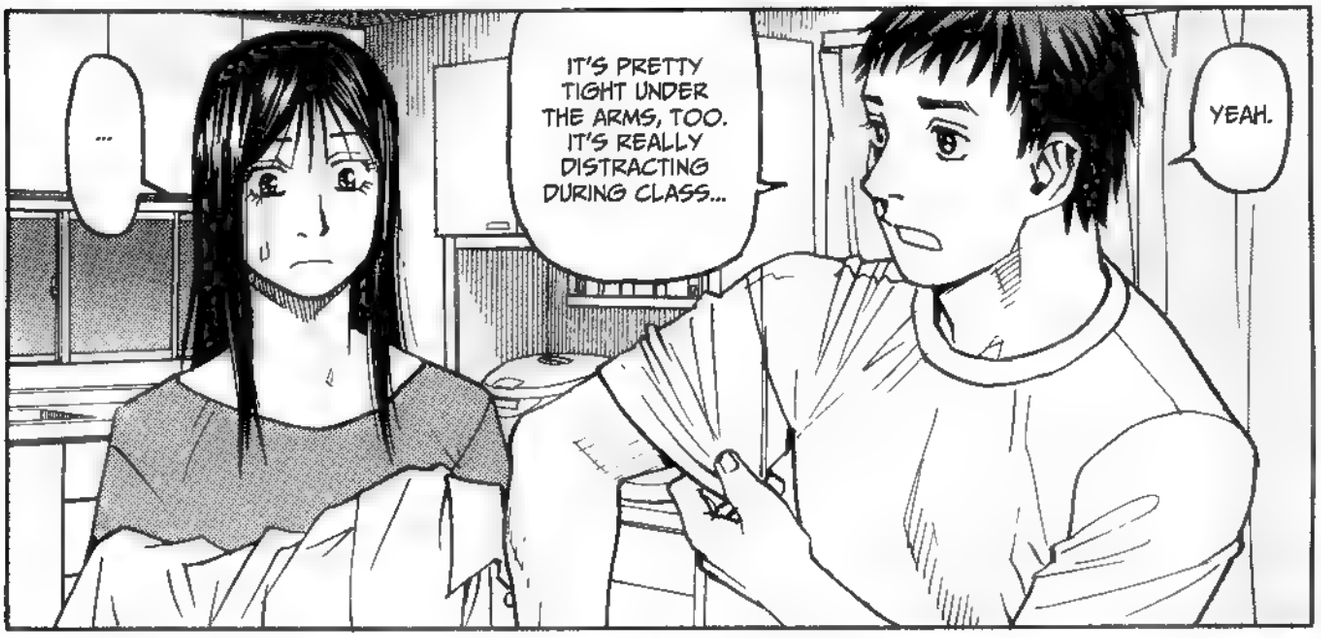

And now, ladies and gentlemen, the main event of the evening!
This fight is two 5-minute rounds in the light-heavyweight division!

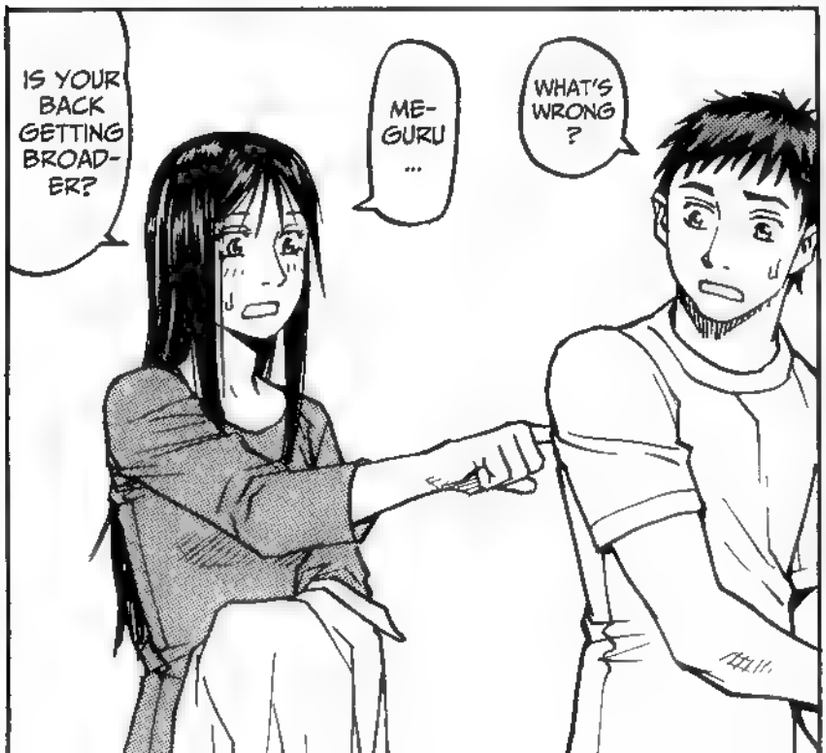
ォォォ

...Tadashi Watanabe!
LET'S GO.
Fighting out of the blue corner...

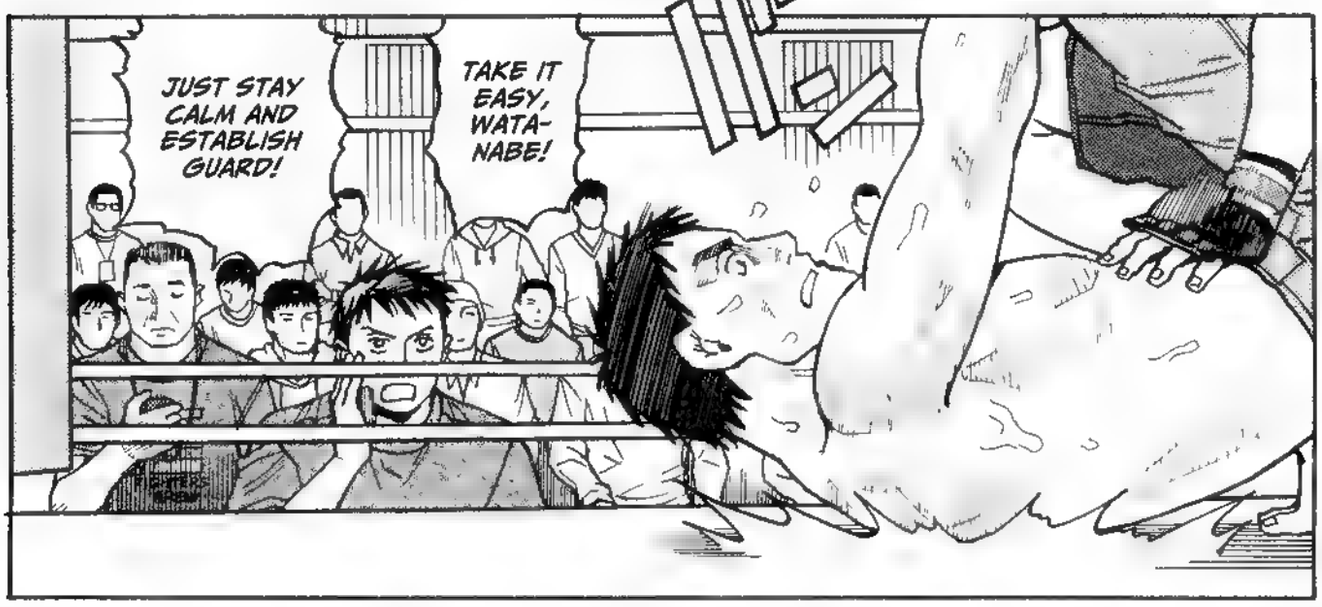

WHAT? AGAIN?
CAN I BUY A NEW ONE?
MY SHIRT COLLAR'S GETTING TIGHT.

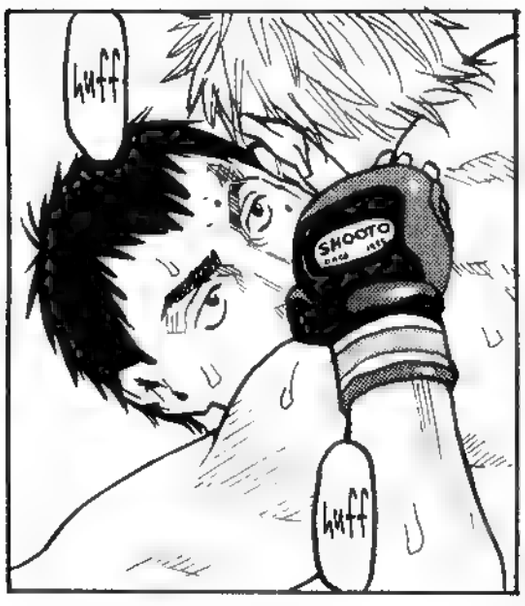
SIS.


...
IT'S PRETTY TIGHT UNDER THE ARMS, TOO. IT'S REALLY DISTRACTING DURING CLASS...
YEAH.


IS YOUR BACK GETTING BROAD-ER?
ME-GURU ...
WHAT'S WRONG ?

poke

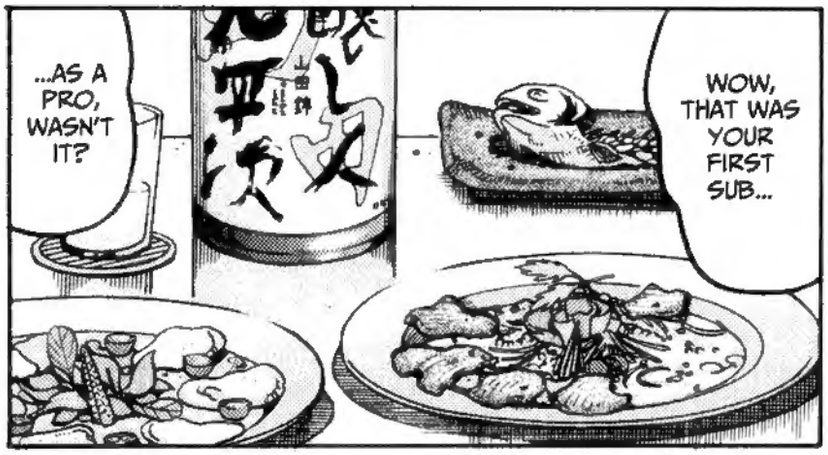

JUST STAY CALM AND ESTABLISH GUARD!
TAKE IT EASY, WATA-NABE!

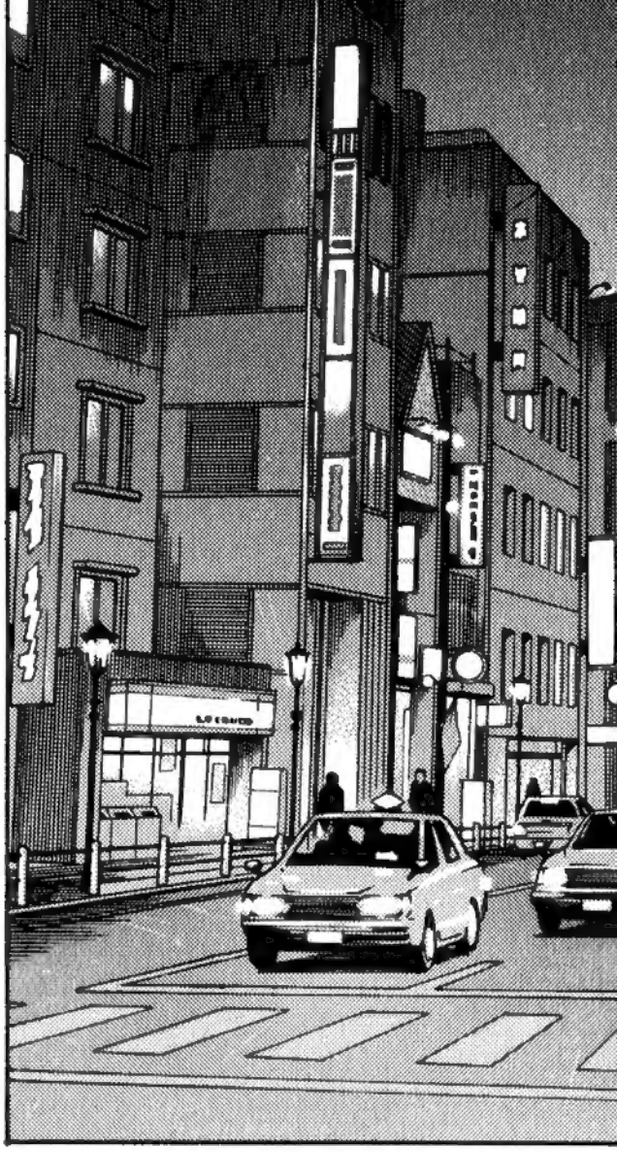

huff
SHOOTO
huff

NOW USE YOUR WRES-TLING MOVES!
YES! NICE SWEEP!
YOU CAN SET THE PACE!

CATCH!
ゴロン
YES! THAT'S IT!
FIGHTERS BREW
STOP!
ALL RIGHT!
TAP TAP
WATA-NABE! YOUR LEG!
CROSS YOUR OPPO-NENT'S LEG!
...Tadashi Watana-beeee!
And the winner is...

New message
Kanemasa Tamiya
IT'S FROM TAMIYA.
OH.
!
DING A LING ♫
inSPIRit
WOW ...
OH!
OH WOW.
...WON BY SUBMISSION!
WATA-NABE...
GO GY
inSPIRit


WOW, THAT WAS YOUR FIRST SUB...
...AS A PRO, WASN'T IT?



I'M GLAD WE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO!
YEAH.
THANK YOU.

YOU GOING TO THE TOILET?
YEAH.
THIS IS YOUR NIGHT, MAN. DON'T BE LONG.

...
BLEEP

DING A♪LING♫
HELLO?
OH, WATANABE.
YOU CELEBRATING NOW?

...MEGURU.
Yeah?
THE THING IS, WHETHER I WON OR LOST...
...I'D ALREADY DECIDED THIS WOULD BE MY LAST MATCH.

CONGRATULATIONS.
A GATOR ROLL CHOKE, HUH? THAT'S AMAZING!

...I THINK I'LL HANG IN THERE A LITTLE LONGER.
BUT...

I SEE...
I feel bad for the people cheering me on.
It's a lot of pressure.

I TOLD MYSELF BEING A PRO WASN'T FOR ME.
I'VE GOT A LOT OF INJURIES AND IT'S HARD TO KEEP MY WEIGHT DOWN. PLUS I NEVER GET A SUBMISSION.

To be continued in *All-Rounder Meguru* Vol. 4.